





BULLETIN OF THE BRITISH
ORNITHOLOGISTS' CLUB. v. 1-9,

~~SHARPE, R. BOWDLER~~ 1893-1899

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Club.
BULLETIN

BRITISH ORNITHOLOGISTS' CLUB.

EDITED BY
R. BOWDLER SHARPE, LL.D.

VOLUME I.
SESSION 1892-3.

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JULY 1893.

ALERE FLAMMAM.



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P R E F A C E.

THE British Ornithologists' *Club* was founded in October, 1892, for the purpose of giving the Members of the British Ornithologists' *Union* an opportunity for meeting more frequently than the customary once a year. The popularity of the Club has been demonstrated by the fact that, during its first season, its ranks have been joined by 84 Members of the B. O. U.

No fewer than 92 communications have been made at the ten Meetings of the B. O. C. which have taken place up to the present time. Twenty-five new or amended names of genera have been proposed, and fifty-eight new species of birds have been described. The Club may therefore be congratulated on the work done under its auspices during its first session.

The Committee hope for the continued support of their brethren of the B. O. U., and will be glad to receive additional names for the B. O. Club. They invite further communications, and inasmuch as many of the Members are especially interested in Palæarctic Ornithology, exhibitions of rare European and Asiatic birds, with remarks on their distribution, will be always appreciated.

(Signed)

R. BOWDLER SHARPE,
Editor.

July 31st, 1893.

RULES

OF THE

BRITISH ORNITHOLOGISTS' CLUB.

I. That a Club be constituted, to consist of Members of the British Ornithologists' Union, and to be called the British Ornithologists' Club.

II. That any Member of the B. O. U. can become a Member of the Club by signifying his wish to do so to the Secretary, and paying a subscription of *Five Shillings* for the Session.

III. That the Club shall meet on the third Wednesday in every month, from October to June inclusive, at times and places to be arranged by the Committee.

IV. That at the Meeting papers upon Ornithological subjects be read, specimens exhibited, and discussion invited.

V. That an Abstract of the proceedings be printed as soon as possible after each Meeting, under the title of the 'Bulletin of the British Ornithologists' Club,' and distributed gratis to every Member. Copies of this monthly Abstract to be published and sold at a shilling each.

VI. That R. BOWDLER SHARPE be appointed Editor of the 'Bulletin,' and HOWARD SAUNDERS, Secretary and Treasurer to the Club.

VII. That the affairs of the Club shall be managed by a Committee of three Members (to be elected annually, and one of whom is to be changed every year*); together with the Editor of 'The Ibis,' the Editor of the 'Bulletin,' and the Secretary and Treasurer, *ex officio*.

* At the inaugural Meeting E. Bidwell, the Earl of Gainsborough, and H. Seebohm were the three Members elected.

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BULLETIN

OF THE

BRITISH ORNITHOLOGISTS' CLUB.

No. I.

THE Inaugural Meeting took place at the Mona Hotel, Henrietta Street, Covent Garden, on Wednesday, October 5th, 1892.

Chairman: P. L. SCLATER, F.R.S.

The following Members of the British Ornithologists' Union were also present:—E. BIDWELL, W. T. BLANFORD, F.R.S., PHILIP CROWLEY, W. GRAHAM, W. R. OGILVIE GRANT, T. J. MONK, F. PENROSE, Count T. SALVADORI, HOWARD SAUNDERS, W. L. SCLATER, HENRY SEEBOHM, R. BOWDLER SHARPE, H. T. WHARTON, and JOHN YOUNG.

Guests: Mr. E. DEGEN, Mr. W. P. PYCRAFT, Mr. OLDFIELD THOMAS, Mr. A. SMITH WOODWARD.

The Rules of the Club were proposed and adopted. A Committee was appointed, consisting of Mr. E. BIDWELL, the EARL OF GAINSBOROUGH, and Mr. H. SEEBOHM, with the Editor of 'The Ibis.' Mr. HOWARD SAUNDERS was elected Secretary and Treasurer to the Club.

It was determined to hold a Meeting on the third Wednesday in every month from October to June inclusive. An abstract of the proceedings to be printed as soon as possible after each Meeting, under the title of the *Bulletin of the British Ornithologists' Club*, and distributed gratis to every

[November 1st, 1892.]

Member. Copies of this monthly 'Bulletin' will be published by Mr. R. H. Porter, 18 Princes Street, Cavendish Square, W.

Dr. R. BOWDLER SHARPE was appointed Editor of the 'Bulletin.'

Mr. EDWARD DEGEN read a paper "On some of the main Features in the Evolution of the Bird's Wing," which was illustrated by diagrams and specimens. After having briefly summarized the pterylography of the wing, Mr. DEGEN invited attention to two small feathers in the carpal region, lying between the cubital and metacarpal remiges. These were considered by the late Mr. Wray to belong, the upper to the median, and the under to the major row of coverts. But Mr. Degen has come to the conclusion that the so-called major covert is really a degenerated remex, whilst the "median" tectrix is neither more nor less than its major covert. In short, Wray's "rudimentary" major covert belongs to the remiges, and his "median" to the tectrices majores. Mr. Degen proposed to call the covert the "carpal covert," and the underlying feather the "vestigial remex." He further pointed out that hitherto the major coverts had been held to lie proximally to their respective remiges, whilst in reality the reverse was the case.

Finally, and as the result of the foregoing deductions, Mr. Degen advanced a theory with regard to aquincubitalism and the probable derivation of the cubital remiges from the 3rd and 4th metacarpo-digitals.

A discussion followed, in which Messrs. P. L. Sclater, Henry Seebohm, and W. P. Pycraft took part.

BULLETIN

OF THE

BRITISH ORNITHOLOGISTS' CLUB.

No. II.

THE first regular meeting of the Club was held at the Mona Hotel, Henrietta Street, Covent Garden, on Wednesday, October 19th, 1892.

Chairman : P. L. SCLATER, F.R.S.

Members present :—E. BIDWELL, W. EAGLE CLARKE, PHILIP CROWLEY, W. GRAHAM, A. P. LOYD, ST. GEORGE MIVART, F.R.S., H. J. PEARSON, ROBERT H. READ, COUNT T. SALVADORI, HOWARD SAUNDERS, HENRY SEEBOHM, R. BOWDLER SHARPE, HORACE TERRY, W. B. TEGETMEIER, J. T. TRISTRAM-VALENTINE, CHARLES A. WRIGHT, JOHN YOUNG.

Mr. HOWARD SAUNDERS informed the Meeting that the number of Members who had joined the Club up to the 19th of October was 60.

Mr. SCLATER announced that he had received for the 'Ibis' an excellent Memoir on the birds of the vicinity of Aden, prepared by Lieut. HENRY E. BARNES, M.B.O.U., and lately attached to the Commissariat Department at Aden. It contained an account of 126 species of birds collected or observed in the vicinity of Aden. Mr. Sclater exhibited some specimens sent home by Lieut. Barnes from Aden for examination. Amongst these were examples of *Falco barbarus*, *Halcyon semicæruleus*, and *Coturnix delegorguei*, which was stated to be equally abundant near Aden with *C. communis*.

[November 1st, 1892.]

Mr. HENRY SEEBOHM exhibited some interesting species of birds procured by Mr. Holst in the 'Loo Choo' or 'Liu Kiu' Islands. The collection will be fully described in the January number of the 'Ibis.'

Dr. R. BOWDLER SHARPE called attention to a collection of birds recently received by the Natural History Museum from Mr. A. H. Everett, the well-known Bornean traveller. Among other interesting birds Mr. Everett sent skins of *Motacilla melanope* from the Baram River, and an adult of the true Peregrine Falcon (*Falco communis*), not the dark Sunda race, from Pappan Island, Labuan, where it was procured in February 1892. Among the migratory species, however, sent by Mr. Everett was a specimen of *Emberiza pusilla*, new to the avifauna of Borneo. His brother, Mr. H. H. Everett, procured the individual in question at Tagora, in Sarawak, during the North-east Monsoon.

From the island of Mantanani, Mr. Everett also forwarded examples of both phases of a new Owl, which Dr. Bowdler Sharpe proposed to call

SCOPS MANTANANENSIS, sp. n.

S. similis S. eleganti, Cass., sed subtùs latiùs striatus, et tectricibus alarum conspicuè albo notatis distinguendus.

Long. tot. 8·5, culm. 0·8, alæ 6·2, caudæ 3·0, tarsi 1·25.

Hab. in insulâ Borneensi "Mantanani" dicta. Typus in Mus. Brit.

Dr. SHARPE also proposed the following diagnostic characters for some new species recently discovered by Mr. Charles Hose on Mount Dulit, in Sarawak, Borneo:—

SCOPS BROOKII, sp. n.

S. similis S. bourouensi, sed fasciâ albâ latâ cervicali distinguendus. Long. tot. 9·5, alæ 6·65.

Hab. in monte Dulitensi insulæ Borneensis.

ORIOLOUS HOSII, sp. n.

O. niger, subcaudalibus castaneis. ♂ rostro nigro; ♀ rostro rubro. Long. tot. 8, alæ 4·9.

BATRACHOSTOMUS MIXTUS, sp. n.

♂ *ptil. rufâ*. Similis *B. stellato* et tectricibus alarum eodem

modo albomaculatis, sed subtùs rufus, pectore et abdomine minimè albicantibus et maculis pectoralibus magnis ovatis distinguendus. Long. tot. 8·0, alæ 4·8.

♀ *ptil. brunneâ*. Similis *B. stellato*, sed subtùs vermiculata et maculis magnis albis ovatis distinguenda. Long. tot. 8·0, alæ 5·1.

Mr. W. R. OGILVIE GRANT described two new species of *Caloperdix*.

CALOPERDIX BORNEENSIS, sp. n.

Similis *C. oculeæ*, sed pileo gulâque saturationibus et magis ferrugineis, interscapulio nigerrimo, plumis lineis albis angustioribus et crebrioribus ornatis, et pileo rufo valdè definito distinguenda.

Hab. in monte Dulitensi provinciæ Borneensis "Sarawak" dictæ.

Mr. Grant likewise pointed out that the *Caloperdix* of Sumatra and Java differed from the typical Malayan form, and proposed to diagnose it as follows :—

CALOPERDIX SUMATRANA, sp. n.

Similis *C. oculeæ*, sed fasciis interscapulii dorsique pallidè flavis et ferè undique transversim irregulariter dispositis.

Hab. in Sumatrâ et Javâ.

Captain G. E. SHELLEY described some new species of African Birds as follows :—

CINNYRIS NESOPHILUS, sp. n.

Similis *C. notato*, sed major ; rostro valdè longiore, et gutture purpurascenti-violaceo distinguendus. Long. tot. 6, alæ 2·9.

Hab. in insulâ, "Angasija" vel "Great Comoro" dictâ.
Typus in Mus. G. E. S.

ZOSTEROPS ANDERSSONI, sp. n.

Similis *Z. senegalensi*, sed valde major et pallidior. Long. tot. 4·3, alæ 2·35.

Hab. in terrâ Damarensi Africæ meridionalis. Typus in Mus. Brit.

PARUS XANTHOSTOMUS, sp. n.

Similis *P. nigro*, sed remigibus flavo marginatis, et ore intus flavo distinguendus. Long. tot. 6, alæ 3·15.

Hab. in terrâ Zambesianâ. Typus in Mus. G. E. S.

PARUS ROVUMÆ, sp. n.

Similis *P. albiventri*, sed notæo, tectricibus alarum minoribus et præpectore cinereis minimè nigris distinguendus. Long. tot. 6, alæ 3·15.

Hab. prope flumen "Rovuma" dictum in Africâ orientali. Typus in Mus. G. E. S.

Mr. F. W. STYAN announced that in a collection of birds made by Mr. B. Schmacker, of Shanghai, in the island of Hainan, he had discovered five apparently new species, which he diagnosed as follows:—

GRAMINICOLA STRIATA, sp. n.

Similis *G. bengalensi*, sed loris et superciliis fulvescentibus et uropygii plumis angustè nigro striatis distinguenda. Long. tot. 6·5, alæ 2·25.

PINAROCICHLA SCHMACKERI, sp. n.

Similis *P. euptilosa*, sed rectricibus minimè albo terminatis distinguenda. Long. tot. 8·9, alæ 4·2.

CRYPsirHINA NIGRA, sp. n.

Fuliginoso-nigra; pileo, alis caudâque chalybeis. Long. tot. 12·25, alæ 4·7.

Mr. Styan described the tail as "spatulate and deeply notched at the tip," and he believes that the bird will be found to be generically distinct from *Crypsirhina*.

CRYPTOLOPHA BICOLOR, sp. n.

Similis *C. cantatrici*, sed loris et facie laterali albidis distinguenda. Long. tot. 4·35, alæ 2·45.

ARBORICOLA ARDENS, sp. n.

Similis *A. intermediæ*, sed fronte superciliisque nigris et plagâ præpectoralis rubrâ, et dorso nigro fasciato, ut in *A. torquæola*, distinguenda. Long. tot. circa 9·0, alæ 4·8.

Dr. BOWDLER SHARPE exhibited the types of some of the new species of birds described by Mr. W. R. Davison in the

'Ibis' for this year (1892, pp. 99-103), from the Pahang country in the Malayan Peninsula. Mr. Davison had very kindly submitted these specimens to Dr. Sharpe, who reported as follows :—

"*Campophaga minor*, Davison, t. c. p. 99 = *Lalage culminata* of my 'Catalogue of Birds in Brit. Mus.' (iv. p. 104). Mr. Oates considers that *C. culminata* should be placed in the genus *Campophaga* (cf. Faun. Brit. Ind., Birds, i. p. 493).

"*Gerygone pectoralis*, Davison, t. c. p. 99 = *G. modiglianii*, Salvad. Ann. Mus. Gen. (2) xii. p. 71 (1891, Sumatra).

"This is a perfectly good species, and Mr. Davison recognized its peculiar character, viz. the dusky horseshoe on the sides of the fore neck—a point equally insisted on by Count Salvadori. The name given by the latter gentleman has a slight priority, for it bears the date of the 23rd of December, 1891, while Mr. Davison's name appeared on the 1st of January, 1892.

"*Ptilocichla leucogastra*, Davison, t. c. p. 100 = *Trichostoma rostratum*, Blyth (cf. Sharpe, Cat. B. vii. p. 562).

"I have compared Mr. Davison's type with our series in the British Museum, and there is no question as to its being identical with the above-named species.

"The type of his *Malacopteryx melanocephalum* was not sent by Mr. Davison, but the type of *Acridotheres torquatus* (t. c. p. 102), which I exhibit, shows that the species is a very distinct one, characterized at once by the broad grey band on the fore neck, separating the pinkish isabelline of the throat from the isabelline of the chest and underparts. It belongs to my subgenus *Æthiopsar*, and must be called *Æthiopsar torquatus*."

Mr. Davison had also sent a *Stachyris* from Pahang, which was apparently new to science. Dr. Sharpe proposed to call it

STACHYRIS DAVISONI, sp. n.

Similis *S. borneensi*, rostro nigro, facie laterali et regione paroticâ pallide ochrascentibus, pectori concoloribus distinguenda. Long. tot. 5·5, alæ 2·25.

Captain G. E. SHELLEY exhibited a series of birds from the collections recently made by Mr. Alexander Whyte, for Mr. H. H. Johnston, C.B., H.B.M. Commissioner for Nyassa Land. These collections were made on the Nyassa Highlands at Zomba and on the Milanji Plateau, and were of great interest, as showing the extension of the range of the South-African Fauna across the watershed of the Zambesi. Twelve species were new to science, and these will be fully described in the January number of the 'Ibis.'

BULLETIN

OF THE

BRITISH ORNITHOLOGISTS' CLUB.

NO. III.

THE second regular meeting of the Club was held at the Mona Hotel, Henrietta Street, Covent Garden, on Wednesday, November 16th, 1892.

Chairman : HOWARD SAUNDERS.

Members present :—F. E. BEDDARD, F.R.S., E. BIDWELL, H. E. DRESSER, A. P. LOYD, E. NEALE, ROBERT H. READ, Capt. SAVILE REID, Count T. SALVADORI, HENRY SEEBOHM, Capt. HORACE TERRY, E. CAVENDISH TAYLOR, H. T. WHARTON, JOHN YOUNG.

Guest : ERNST HARTERT.

The Chairman announced that the number of Members who had joined the Club up to the 16th of November was 72.

Mr. HENRY SEEBOHM exhibited two examples of the Siberian Pectoral Sandpiper (*Tringa acuminata*) which had been obtained on the Norfolk coast. These are the only authentic instances of the occurrence of the species in Great Britain. A series of specimens of *T. acuminata* and its American ally, *T. maculata*, were placed on the table, and the differences between the two species and their geographical distribution were pointed out.

Count SALVADORI gave diagnostic characters for two new species of Pigeons of the genus *Phlogœnas*, as follows :—

[December 1st, 1892.]

PHLOGÆNAS BIMACULATA, sp. n.

Phlogœnas tristigmata, Gould (nec Temm.), B. Asia, vi. pl. 59 (1873).

Ph. Ph. tristigmatae simillima, sed cervice in medio omninò æneâ, parte superiori maculis duabus lateralibus purpureis ornatâ; rectricibus quatuor mediis brunneis, 5^a utrinque griseâ, fasciâ subapicali brunneâ notatâ, quatuor extimis griseis, fasciâ subapicali nigrâ ornatis.

Hab. Makassar, S. Celebes.

PHLOGÆNAS ALBICOLLIS, sp. n.

Phlogœnas sp., Wigglesw. Aves Polyn. p. 55, no. 286 (1891).

Ph. Ph. erythropteræ simillima, sed capite, collo cum pectore albis, distinguenda.

Hab. Bow Island, Pacific Ocean (*Belcher*).

The Hon. WALTER ROTHSCHILD communicated the description of a new species of Pigeon of the genus *Ptilopus*, which he proposed to call—

PTILOPUS SALVADORII, sp. n.

P. P. pectorali affinis, sed rostro longiore, colore lætiore, tectricibus alarum minoribus albo-cinerascente pustulatis, et gulâ inferiore luteo tinctâ haud difficile distinguendus. Long. tot. 8, alæ 4.4, caudæ 2.5.

Hab. Island of Jobi, in the Bay of Geelvink.

Mr. Rothschild pointed out that this new species was intermediate to a great extent between *P. pectoralis* and *P. musschenbroeki*. It is, however, most closely allied to *P. pectoralis*, from which species it is distinguished by the generally lighter shade of the ground-colour and by the characters given above in the diagnosis. The purple pectoral patch, which is somewhat irregular in shape in *P. pectoralis*, is slightly larger in *P. salvadorii*. It is much smaller than in *P. musschenbroeki*, and its inferior margin forms a straight line. In *P. pectoralis* the lesser wing-coverts are entirely unspotted, in *P. musschenbroeki* they have a large cinereous patch, while in *P. salvadorii* they have several distinct and separate spots of grey.

The types were forwarded to Mr. Rothschild from Souroui, in the island of Jobi, by the late Mr. A. Bruijn, and were procured in January. Mr. Rothschild named the species in honour of Count Tommaso Salvadori, whose knowledge of the family of Pigeons is unrivalled, and only equalled by his splendid work on the Birds of New Guinea.

Mr. HENRY SEEBOHM exhibited a specimen of the new Ground-Thrush, *Oreocincla cuneata*, De Vis, which had been lent to him by Mr. De Vis for illustration in his forthcoming 'Monograph' of the group. This species is a very interesting one, and specimens of the allied forms were laid upon the table for comparison.

Mr. SEEBOHM likewise made some remarks on the occurrences of the Barred Warbler (*Sylvia nisoria*) in the British Islands, an example of the species having been obtained in Yorkshire about a fortnight ago. He gave details of all the authentic British captures of this Warbler, the chief interest being in the fact that four specimens had been captured in Great Britain within a few weeks of each other—one being taken in Ireland, one in Scotland, and two in England, only one previous occurrence in this country having been known.

COUNT SALVADORI read some notes on a rare Parrot, *Conurus rubritorques* of Sclater. The species was described by Dr. Sclater from a specimen which lived in the Zoological Gardens, and the typical skin, in not very perfect condition, passed into the collection of the British Museum. When writing the volume of the 'Catalogue of Birds' which dealt with the species, Count Salvadori thought that the red feathers on the throat and neck were due to a *lusus naturæ*; and this conclusion was enhanced by the fact that in allied species, especially in *C. wagleri*, red feathers were occasionally found on the throat, sometimes forming a red collar. Thus the Count concluded that *C. rubritorques* was an accidental variety of *C. holochlorus*. Recently, however, Messrs. Salvin and

Godman have received from Nicaragua a series of ten specimens collected by Mr. W. B. Richardson, and all of them have the red throat, and most of them show some red feathers on the side of the neck, forming an incipient collar. Mr. Salvin has already referred these specimens to *C. rubritorques* ('Ibis,' 1892, p. 328), and has suggested that the conclusions of the 'Catalogue' required reconsideration. Having examined the series in the Salvin-Godman collection, Count Salvadori agreed that *C. rubritorques* must be recognized as a species, though the name is not very happily chosen, as there is no red collar round the neck, but only a few red feathers on the side of the neck joining the red throat, and these feathers are not present in every individual. The bird was rather red-throated than red-collared.

Mr. ERNST HARTERT made remarks on some new and interesting species from the islands of the Dutch West Indies, near to the Venezuelan coast. Among other important facts established by Mr. Hartert during his recent explorations of these islands was the discovery of the true habitat of *Columba gymnoptthalmus*, which turns out to be the islands of Curaçao, Aruba, and Bonaire. On Bonaire Mr. Hartert met with *Columba corensis*, *Margarops fuscatus*, and *Ammodromus savannarum*. The latter species was also found on Curaçao, where also *Crotophaga sulcirostris* was procured. *Icterus vulgaris* was common to Curaçao and Aruba; but a very curious fact was the distribution of the three species of *Conurus*, each island having its own peculiar form—*C. pertinax* in Curaçao, *C. æruginosus* in Aruba, and *C. xanthogenus* (apparently a race of *C. pertinax*) in Bonaire.

Mr. Hartert described the following species as new to science:—

†MYIARCHUS BREVIPENNIS, sp. n.

M. similis M. tyrannulo, sed tarso longiore, alis caudæque brevioribus, rostro nigro et notæ colore pallidiore distinguendus. Long. tot. 7·3, alæ 3·4–3·5, caudæ 3·5, culm. 0·7–0·8, tarsi 0·75–0·85.

Hab. Islands of Aruba, Curaçao, and Bonaire.

It is remarkable that this bird should be closely allied to the continental *M. tyrannulus* rather than to *M. oberi* of the Windward Islands, which is quite a distinct species. It may, perhaps, be considered a subspecific form of *M. tyrannulus*.

CHRYSOTIS ROTHSCILDI, sp. n.

C. similis C. ochroptera, sed rostro minore, marginis cubitalis colore rubro magis extenso, et colore flavo capitis, menti et alarum tectricum minorum minùs extenso distinguendus.

Hab. Island of Bonaire.

No species of *Chrysotis* is found on Curaçao, but Bonaire and Aruba each possess a species, the latter island having *C. ochroptera* of Venezuela. The new species is named after the Hon. Walter Rothschild, who took the greatest interest in the author's expedition to Venezuela and the West Indian Islands.

STRIX FLAMMEA BARGEI, subsp. n.

S. minima : similis *S. flammea* veræ, sed multò minor et alis valdè brevioribus distinguenda. Long. tot. 12, alæ 9·7, caudæ 4·3, tarsi 2·2.

Hab. Island of Curaçao.

This is a very small insular form, totally unlike the ordinary Barn-Owl of the West Indies. It is more like typical *S. flammea*, but is very much smaller and has such short wings that it is impossible to unite it to that species. It is named after Mr. Harry Barge, Governor of the Dutch West India Islands.

The next Meeting of the Club will be held on the 21st of December.

BULLETIN

OF THE

BRITISH ORNITHOLOGISTS' CLUB.

No. IV.

THE third meeting of the Club was held at the Mona Hotel, Henrietta Street, Covent Garden, on Wednesday, December 21st, 1892.

Chairman : P. L. SCLATER, F.R.S.

Members present :—E. BIDWELL, R. STEPHENSON CLARKE, PHILIP CROWLEY, H. E. DRESSER, H. O. FORBES, W. R. OGILVIE GRANT, Lt.-Col. H. L. IRBY, ST. GEORGE MIVART, F.R.S., H. J. PEARSON, F. PENROSE, HOWARD SAUNDERS (*Treas.*), W. L. SCLATER, HENRY SEEBOHM, R. BOWDLER SHARPE, Rev. H. H. SLATER, Capt. HORACE TERRY, J. F. TRISTRAM-VALENTINE.

Guests : A. TREVOR-BATTYE, E. HARTERT, E. J. HART.

THE TREASURER announced that the number of Members amounted to 78.

Mr. H. E. DRESSER exhibited a specimen of a new species of *Acredula* from Macedonia, which he had received from Dr. Krüper. He proposed to call it

ACREDULA MACEDONICA, sp. n.

A. similis A. roseæ, sed nigredine pilei lateralis latiore et usque ad nares productâ, itaque loris nigris et plagâ gutturali sic ut in *A. tephronota*, distinguenda. Long. tot. 5·5 poll., culmen 0·3, alæ 2·4, caudæ 3·5, tarsi 0·6.

Hab. In monte Olympo.

[December 31st, 1892.]

Mr. PHILIP CROWLEY exhibited a nest and egg of *Paradisea raggiana* and the egg of *Chlamydodera cerviniventris* from South-eastern New Guinea; also an egg of *Chlamydodera maculata* from Clarence River, N. S. Wales. That of *C. cerviniventris* had been procured by Mr. Goldie at Milne Bay, S.E. New Guinea. The *Paradisea* was stated to build in shrubs from about 15 to 20 feet in height, and the egg resembled that of *Paradisea apoda* figured by Dr. Meyer from the Aru Islands (Zeitschr. ges. Orn. i. Taf. xvii. fig. 2).

Mr. A. TREVOR-BATTYE exhibited some skins of *Parus borealis* and *P. palustris* from Sweden, and made some remarks on the different habits and notes of the two species as observed by him in that country. Remarks on this subject were made by Mr. HOWARD SAUNDERS, Rev. H. H. SLATER, Mr. ERNST HARTERT, and Mr. H. J. PEARSON.

The Hon. WALTER ROTHSCHILD sent for exhibition the type of the remarkable new genus *Palmeria mirabilis* from Maui, Sandwich Islands, as well as types of *Loxops ochracea* and *Hemignathus affinis*, the descriptions of which will appear in 'The Ibis' for January 1893.

Mr. ERNST HARTERT exhibited an example of a new *Conurus* obtained by him on the island of Aruba, which he proposed to call

CONURUS ARUBENSIS, sp. n.

Conurus C. æruginoso similimus, sed fronte pallidiore, loris, capitis lateribus et gula lætioribus et conspicue luteo vel aureo tinctis distinguendus. Al. 5·4 poll., caud. 5.

This new form might be called intermediate between *C. pertinax* and *C. æruginosus*. Mr. Hartert had obtained four skins, which he had compared with a good many skins of both *C. æruginosus* and *C. pertinax* in Mus. H. v. Berlepsch, the British Museum, and the Rothschild Museum.

Hab. Aruba, West Indies.

Dr. P. L. SCLATER exhibited a specimen of an extraordinary bird from South-eastern New Guinea, *Paramythia*

montium, De Vis (Ann. Queensl. Mus. No. 2, p. 6). This species had been discovered by Sir William McGregor on Mount Suckling, and placed by Mr. De Vis in the family *Sturnidæ*; but it was doubtful whether its affinities lay with the Starlings. The bird will be figured in 'The Ibis' for April 1893.

The Hon. WALTER ROTHSCHILD sent for exhibition a typical specimen of a new Duck, which he proposed to call

ANAS LAYSANENSIS, sp. n.

Bill blackish; top of the head and hind neck deep blackish brown; sides of the head more mottled with brown; round the eye a white ring; interscapular region, scapulars, and wing-coverts light rusty brown, boldly variegated with blackish; feathers of the back and rump blackish, edged with rufous brown and with more or less conspicuous pale shaft-lines; upper tail-coverts and rectrices light brown, barred with blackish; primaries pale brown, with very light edges; chin whitish; feathers of the rest of the lower parts light rusty brown, irregularly barred and spotted with darker brown; feet yellow. In the male there is a conspicuous deep green and black speculum, bordered with white below; in the female the speculum is only indicated, the primary-coverts being edged with white. Total length 15 to 17 inches, wing 7·5 to 7·7, tail 3·5, culmen 1·6, tarsus 1·9.

Hab. Island of Laysan.

Mr. HENRY SEEBOHM exhibited two examples (♂ and ♀) of a species of *Crossoptilon* which he regarded as representing an undescribed species. He proposed to call it

CROSSOPTILON LEUCURUM.

C. similis C. tibetano, sed rectricibus albis nigro terminatis (♂) aut marginatis (♀) distinguendum.

These examples had been obtained by Captain Bower and Dr. Thorold in Eastern Tibet between the Sok Pass and Chiamdo. Similar examples had been obtained by Prince Henry of Orleans and Monsieur Bonvalot on the plateau

between the Sok Pass and Lhasa. Still further to the south, 150 miles east of Lhasa, was found *C. harmani*, of which a drawing was exhibited. East of Chiamdo and Batang, examples of *C. tibetanum* had been found by the Abbé David at Moupin, and by Mr. Pratt at Ta-chien-loo, and examples from both localities were exhibited. The range of this species seemed to overlap that of *C. leucurum* in East Tibet, but the latter was not known to extend into Western China. Examples of *C. auritum* collected by General Prjevalski on the plateau east of Koko-Nor, and the type of *C. manchuricum* obtained by the Abbé David on the plateau west of Peking, were laid on the table for comparison.

Dr. BOWDLER SHARPE exhibited a specimen of an apparently new species of *Rhipidura* from the island of Dammar, in the Banda Sea, where it had been procured by Dr. Bassett Smith during the recent voyage of H.M.S. 'Penguin':—

RHIPIDURA BUTTIKOFERI, sp. n.

R. similis R. setosæ, sed ubique saturatior, nigricanti-brunnea, nec grisea, et rectricibus duabus exterioribus longiùs albo terminatis. Long. tot. 6·8 poll., culm. 0·7, alæ 3·4, caudæ 3·4, tarsi 0·65.

According to the describer's arrangement in the 'Catalogue of Birds,' the species would fall in the "Key" to the species of *Rhipidura* (vol. iv. pp. 303–308) close to *R. setosa* (*t. c.* p. 329); but it differed from the latter in being blackish brown instead of ashy grey, and the white on the tail was much more extended. Under Count Salvadori's arrangement (*Orn. Papuasias*, ii. p. 53) of the genus *Rhipidura*, the Dammar species would also be closely allied to *R. setosa*. According, however, to the most recent disposition of the genus by Mr. Büttikofer (*Notes Leyden Mus.* xv. pp. 65–98), the new species would come into a different section from *R. setosa*, because the upper surface could never be considered to be "pure ashy grey;" on the contrary, the colour of the upper parts was dark chocolate-brown, almost blackish. Thus, to follow Mr. Büttikofer, the species would come next to *R. isura*; but here again, as in the case of *R. setosa*, the dark

brown colour—instead of grey—would at once separate it. Dr. Sharpe added that Count Salvadori agreed with him that the species was new to science, and wished to apologize to Mr. Büttikofer for not having shown him the specimen during his recent visit to London, as, though it had been specially put aside for his examination, it had got mislaid.

Dr. BOWDLER SHARPE also exhibited the types of the species of Hainan birds described by Mr. Styan at the first Meeting of the Club on October 19th, 1892, which had been forwarded by him for examination. Mr. Styan had already discovered that his *Cryptolopha bicolor* was not a *Cryptolopha*, but was *Herpornis tyrannulus* of Swinhoe. Of the other species Dr. Sharpe found that *Pinarocichla schmackeri*, Styan, was *Criniger pallidus* of Swinhoe ('Ibis,' 1870, p. 252; cf. Sharpe, Cat. B. vi. p. 81). The *Crypsirhina nigra* was a *Temnurus*, a form which had remained unique in the Paris Museum since 1825. The original species, *Temnurus truncatus*, was said to have come from Cochin China, but had never been met with since. It was, however, extremely probable that the genus *Temnurus* would be found both in Cochin China and Hainan, for Mr. Schmacker's collection conclusively proved (if, indeed, any further proof were necessary after Swinhoe's researches) that Hainan formed an integral part of the Indo-Chinese Region; such species as *Harpactes erythrocephalus*, *Ianthænas puniceus*, and *Siphia pallidipes*, which were true Himalayan forms, proclaiming Hainan to be connected with the Himalayan subregion. Whether *Temnurus niger* would prove to be conspecific with *Temnurus truncatus* could only be determined by a comparison of it with the types in Paris.

Dr. SHARPE next made some remarks on a remarkable paper recently published by Dr. Hartlaub, entitled "Vier seltene Rallen" (Abhandl. nat. Ver. Bremen, xii. Heft 3, pp. 389-402). In this paper Dr. Hartlaub had discussed *Rallus monasa* of Kittlitz from Kuschai, and proposed the generic

name of *Kittlitzia* for the bird. Dr. Sharpe pointed out that this generic name had already been employed by Mr. Hartert for the Starling of Kuschai, which Kittlitz called *Calornis corvina* (cf. Hartert, 'Kat. Vogelsamml. Senckenb. Mus.' p. 75). He proposed, therefore, to change the name of *Kittlitzia*, Hartlaub (*nec* Hartert), to *Aphanolimnas*, the characters being the same as those so fully set forth by Dr. Hartlaub in his paper.

Of the second species mentioned by Dr. Hartlaub, *Pennula ecaudata* (King), a specimen was placed upon the table from the collection of the Hon. Walter Rothschild, who had kindly lent it for the occasion. In his paper Dr. Hartlaub had mentioned that there were five specimens extant of this rare and probably extinct species, four of which were in Honolulu, and one in the Cambridge Museum. Mr. Rothschild had stated, in a memorandum, that, so far as he was aware, only one specimen remained in Honolulu, and that of the other four, one was in Cambridge, one in Mexico, and the remaining two in his own Museum at Tring. Dr. Sharpe suggested that Dr. Hartlaub's third species of Rail, *Rallus sandwichensis*, Gm.,—which was evidently a *Pennula*, and should be called *Pennula sandwichensis* (Gm.)—was really the same as *Pennula ecaudata* (King). The fourth species—which Dr. Hartlaub had also included in the genus *Pennula*—was the *Porzanula palmeri* of Frohawk, a specimen of which was also placed on the table by Mr. Rothschild. Dr. Sharpe differed from Dr. Hartlaub as to the location of this species in the genus *Pennula*, and contended that it must be retained in the genus *Porzanula*, as it was much nearer to true *Porzana* than to any of the other Ralline genera, but possessed characters of sufficient generic value to warrant its separation.

Mr. H. O. FORBES stated that he had recently received from his correspondent Mr. Hawkins a specimen of *Cabalus modestus* of Hutton, from the island of Mangare in the Chatham group. The specimen was evidently that of a young bird, and Mr. Forbes had no doubt that *Cabalus modestus* was only the young of *Cabalus dieffenbachii*.

Dr. BOWDLER SHARPE announced that he had intended to speak about the classification and distribution of the Rails, but, owing to the lateness of the hour, this communication was postponed till the meeting in January.

Mr. H. O. FORBES exhibited the osteological remains of several of the species of birds he had discovered in the Chatham Islands, lying 500 miles to the east of Banks Peninsula, New Zealand. He pointed out that the species he had ('Nature,' xlv. p. 252) assigned to the genus *Aphanapteryx*, and named *A. hawkinsi* (after his correspondent who had brought him the first fragments of its cranium), he was now inclined to place in a new genus, which he proposed (at the suggestion of Prof. A. Newton, F.R.S.) to call *Diaphorapteryx* (διάφορος = different). *Diaphorapteryx hawkinsi* belonged to the Ocydromine group of the Rallidæ, and was nearly related not only to *Ocydromus* itself, but even more closely to *Aphanapteryx* of Mauritius. It appeared, indeed, to be nearer to *Aphanapteryx* than the latter genus was to *Erythromachus* of Rodriguez.

Erythromachus differed from *Diaphorapteryx* and *Aphanapteryx* in the greater length of its nasal aperture, which was less than one third of the length of the beak in *Diaphorapteryx*. The latter also differed from both these genera and from *Ocydromus* in the large protuberances on the basi-temporal region of the skull; and from *Ocydromus* in its widely separated palatine bones, which, as they did not meet posteriorly in the middle line, disclosed the whole of the post-vomerine parasphenoidal rostrum as seen from the palatal surface. It had a strong, thick, short tarso-metatarsus, shorter than the metatarsus as figured by M. Milne-Edwards in his 'Oiseaux Fossiles de France.' The beak was highly arched—as in *Aphanapteryx* and *Erythromachus*, and was longer than the tarso-metatarsus.

Palæocorax moriorum.—This species of the Corvidæ, established on the wing- and limb-bones, had been originally placed in the genus *Corvus* (cf. 'Nature,' xlv. p. 252), as these bones presented no characters distinguishing them from

those of the most typical Crow. The cranium, however, differed from that of every known species of that genus, so that Mr. Forbes had found it necessary to establish a new genus, *Palæocorax*, for its reception.

There were present minute rudiments of the basipterygoid processes on the parasphenoid. The vomer was broad, flat, three-pointed in front. The maxillaries were anchylosed to the premaxillaries; the latter were anchylosed to the expanded ossified base of the nasal septum. The ossified mesethmoid stretched backward and was lodged in the concavity of the upper surface of the vomer, so that it presented a form intermediate between the complete ægithognathous *Coracomorphæ*, such as *Corvus*, and the compound ægithognathous forms, such as *Gymnorhina*, in which desmognathism was superadded by "ankylosis of the inner edge of the maxillaries with a highly ossified alinasal wall and nasal septum" (*Parker*).

The next Meeting will take place on January 18th, 1893, at the Restaurant Frascati (Krasnopolsky), 32 Oxford Street, W.

(Signed)

P. L. SCLATER,	R. BOWDLER SHARPE,	HOWARD SAUNDERS,
<i>Chairman.</i>	<i>Editor.</i>	<i>Sec. & Treas.</i>

BULLETIN

OF THE

BRITISH ORNITHOLOGISTS' CLUB.

No. V.

THE fourth meeting of the Club was held at the Restaurant Frascati, 32 Oxford Street, on Wednesday, the 18th of January, 1893.

Chairman : P. L. SCLATER, F.R.S.

Members present :—E. BIDWELL, R. STEPHENSON CLARKE, W. R. OGILVIE-GRANT, Col. L. HOWARD IRBY, H. J. PEARSON, F. PENROSE, EVELYN RAWSON, W. L. SCLATER, HOWARD SAUNDERS (*Treas.*), R. BOWDLER SHARPE, H. SEEBOHM, J. YOUNG.

Guest : C. E. BAKER.

The TREASURER reported that the number of Members amounted to 79.

A letter was read from Count SALVADORI commenting on some of the communications made to the last meeting of the Club, and expressing an opinion that *Cabalus modestus* of Hutton would be found to be distinct from *C. dieffenbachi*.

The EDITOR expressed his regret that, by an oversight, the name of Count Salvadori was not attached to the description of *Acredula macedonica* in the last number of the 'Bulletin.' He accepted the responsibility and apologized for this omission, which was due to a misunderstanding on his part, and stated that the species should be called *Acredula macedonica* of Salvadori and Dresser.

[January 26th, 1893.]

Mr. HOWARD SAUNDERS exhibited a mature male Scoter (*Ædemia nigra*), shot by Mr. Chas. Fowler, of Chichester, in August 1891. Mr. Fowler stated that he had seen the two old birds, off and on, all the summer, without thinking of the probability of their breeding; but that early in August he had come upon them with a brood of seven nestlings just able to fly a short distance, and had shot the drake (see Zool. 1892, pp. 151, 228). On making inquiries he was told that the Scoter nested in Earnsley Marshes every year.

Mr. SCLATER exhibited a prepared wing and tail of the Martineta Tinamou (*Calodromas elegans*), and pointed out that this form of the Tinamidæ had 12 rectrices, although these feathers could not be discriminated from the adjacent coverts without careful examination.

There were 10 metacarpo-digitals and 15 cubitals in the wing. The fifth cubital remex was present and well developed, as in all the Tinami (see 'Ibis,' 1890, p. 82). There were 3 feathers on the pollex (*alula spuria*).

Mr. SCLATER read an extract from a letter addressed to him by Dr. G. Hartlaub, in which Dr. Hartlaub pointed out that Dr. Bowdler Sharpe was in error in suggesting (Bull. B. O. C. iv. p. xx) that *Pennula ecaudata* (King) and *P. sandwichensis* (Gm.) were identical. Dr. Hartlaub had compared the Cambridge specimen of the former with the Leyden specimen of the latter, and had found them distinct. The notæum of *P. sandwichensis* was marked by great blackish spots, whereas in *P. ecaudata* the upper parts were of a uniform brown. It was possible that Latham's "Dusky Rail" might belong to *P. sandwichensis* and not to *P. ecaudata*.

A communication was read from the Hon. WALTER ROTHSCHILD containing the description of a new species of *Hemignathus* from the island of Lanai in the Sandwich group. He proposed for it the name of

HEMIGNATHUS LANAIENSIS, sp. n.

H. similis H. obscuro, sed rostro valdè longiore et crassiore,

pileo cinerascente, notæo sordidiore olivascenti-viridi, pectore sordidè flavo, hypochondriis sordidè olivascentibus, et subcaudalibus albicantibus, distinguendus. Ala 3·1-3·3 poll., culm. 2·9-3·1.

Hab. in insulâ Sandwichensi 'Lanai' dictâ.

Mr. Rothschild's communication contained the following remarks on this new bird:—

"This species belongs to the typical section of *Hemignathus*, which, in my opinion, includes two different species from the island of Kauai, one from Hawai, and one from Oahu, in addition to the new species. They all have the upper and lower mandible of about the same length, while the aberrant *Heterorhynchus*-section, which now contains four species, has the upper mandible nearly twice the length of the lower.

"The *male* differs from the same sex of *H. obscurus* (its nearest ally) from Hawai in its much longer and very stout bill, ashy-greyish tint of the crown, and much duller olivaceous green of the back, neck, and rump. Breast dirty yellow, gradually passing into dull olive on the flanks, instead of bright yellowish olive as in *H. obscurus*. Under tail-coverts creamy white, instead of olive-green.

"*Female*. Everywhere dull greyish olive, becoming more yellowish on the abdomen and under tail-coverts. Throat and cheeks dull greyish.

"*Young male*. Similar to the adult male, but all the colours strongly suffused with an ochraceous tinge.

"Iris dark brown; bill blackish brown, greyish at the base; feet and legs bright slaty blue, soles of the feet yellowish. Wing 3·1 to 3·3 inches, culmen 2·9 to 3·1 (much longer than that of *H. obscurus*)."

Mr. HENRY SEEBOHM exhibited two males, a female, and a young male in first plumage of a new species of *Merula*, which he proposed to call

MERULA WHITEHEADI, sp. n.

Supra brunnea, capite canescente, abdomine castaneo, ventre medio albo, subcaudalibus albo striatis.

The specimens were procured near Tozari in East Java, 7000 feet above sea-level, in August and September 1886, by Mr. John Whitehead.

Mr. Seeböhm also made some critical remarks on a recent paper by Mr. Büttikofer on the same group of Thrushes (Notes Leyd. Mus. xv. p. 109), and exhibited the type specimen of *Merula papuensis* of De Vis, which had been lent to him by the describer for illustration in his forthcoming 'Monograph of the Turdidæ.'

Mr. SEEBÖHM next exhibited and made remarks upon a new species of *Zosterops* from East Java, procured by Mr. John Whitehead in 1886, which he proposed to call

ZOSTEROPS NEGLECTA, sp. n.

Similis *Z. palpebrose*, sed magis olivascens, et macula anteculari obscuriore distinguenda.

This makes the sixth species of *Zosterops* found on the island of Java.

Dr. BOWDLER SHARPE read a paper on the Classification of the *Rallidæ*. He pointed out that the popular division of the family into Rails, Gallinules, and Coots was an untenable one, the Coots alone having definite characters for their separation as a subfamily, and that even these characters were approached by those of the Gallinules. It seemed, therefore, best to keep the whole of the Rails together as a family, and not to recognize minor divisions such as those specified. The gradual transition from typical Rails to Crakes (e. g. *Eulabeornis*—*Rallina*), and from Crakes to Gallinules (*Limnobenetus* and *Amaurornis* to *Gallinula*), was so marked that it was impossible to say where the Rails ended and the Crakes began, or where the Crakes ended and the Gallinules began.

According to Dr. Sharpe's views, the Rails were an ancient group of birds, which were once more numerous distributed, especially in the southern hemisphere. Many of the surviving representatives of the family, from their isolation

and restricted habitats, had become modified in structure, and a much larger number of generic forms existed than had hitherto been supposed.

The following were the genera which Dr. Sharpe proposed to recognize:—1. *Rallus*, L.; 2. *Limnopardalus*, Cab.; 3. *Hypotaenidia*, Reichenb.; 4. *Cabalus*, Hutton; 5. *Eulabeornis*, Gould; 6. *Tricholimnas*, gen. n.; 7. *Gymnocrex*, Salvad.; 8. *Aramides*, Pucher.; 9. *Megacrex*, Salvad.; 10. *Habroptila*, Gray; 11. *Ocydromus*, Wagl.; 12. *Aphanapteryx*, Frauenf.; 13. *Diaphorapteryx*, Forbes; 14. *Erythremachus*, Milne-Edwards; 15. *Himantornis*, Schl.; 16. *Dryolimnas*, gen. n.; 17. *Canirallus*, Hartl.; 18. *Rallina*, Reichenb.; 19. *Castanolimnas*, gen. n.; 20. *Crecopsis*, gen. n.; 21. *Crex*, Bechst.; 22. *Ænolimnas*, gen. n.; 23. *Amaurolimnas*, gen. n.; 24. *Anurolimnas*, gen. n.; 25. *Zapornia*, Leach; 26. *Porzana*, Vieill.; 27. *Pennula*, Dole; 28. *Aphanolimnas*, Sharpe; 29. *Corethrura*, Reichenb.; 30. *Rallacula*, Schl.; 31. *Thyrorhina*, ScL. & Salv.; 32. *Ortygops*, Heine; 33. *Poliolimnas*, gen. n.; 34. *Porzanula*, Frohawk; 35. *Creciscus*, Cab.; 36. *Limnocorax*, Swains.; 37. *Limnobænus*, Sund.; 38. *Amaurornis*, Reichenb.; 39. *Rougetius*, Bp.; 40. *Neocrex*, ScL. & Salv.; 41. *Tribonyx*, Du Bus; 42. *Microtribonyx*, gen. n.; 43. *Pareudiasstes*, Hartl. & Finsch; 44. *Porphyriornis*, Allen; 45. *Gallinula*, Briss.; 46. *Porphyriops*, Pucher.; 47. *Gallicrex*, Blyth; 48. *Psammocrex*, Oust.; 49. *Ionornis*, Reichenb.; 50. *Porphyrio*, Briss.; 51. *Notornis*, Mantell; 52. *Fulica*, Briss.; 53. *Leguatia*, Schl. Besides these genera there were a few fossil forms, the exact position of which it was difficult to define.

Dr. Sharpe stated that he had lately examined the type specimen of *Gallirallus brachypterus*, from the Caen Museum. For the loan of the specimen he was indebted to Professor Joyeux-Laffine, the Director of that Museum. Dr. Sharpe pointed out that the species had been the subject of much controversial opinion, but it was evidently of the same species as *Gallirallus fuscus* of Du Bus, which must therefore be known as *Ocydromus brachypterus* (Lafr.). The species identified by Sir Walter Buller as *O. brachypterus*, and

figured as such in his 'Birds of New Zealand,' had in consequence been wrongly determined.

The following were the characters of the new genera proposed by Dr. Sharpe:—

TRICHOLIMNAS, gen. n. Simile generi "*Eulabeornis*" dicto, sed tectricibus alarum maximè elongatis, remiges ipsas celantibus, distinguendum.

Typus *T. lafresnayanus* (Verr.).

DRYOLIMNAS, gen. n. Simile generi "*Canirallus*" dicto et culmine longiore quam digitus internus cum ungue, sed naribus longitudinalibus angustissimis, aperturâ nasali vix evidente, distinguendum.

Typus *D. cuvieri* (Pucher.).

CASTANOLIMNAS, gen. n. Simile generi "*Rallina*" dicto, sed secundariis primariisque æqualibus, et tectricibus alarum elongatis, remigibus albo fasciatis, rectricibus mollibus decompositis, distinguendum.

Typus *C. canningi* (Blyth).

CRECOPSIS, gen. n. Simile præcedenti, sed dorso variegato, remigibus concoloribus, et remigibus rectricibusque normalibus distinguendum.

Typus *C. egregia* (Peters).

ÆNOLIMNAS, gen. n. Simile generi "*Crex*" dicto, sed ptilosi concolori haud variegatâ, rectricibus latissimis, ad apicem decompositis distinguendum.

Typus *Æ. isabellinus* (Schl.).

AMAUROLIMNAS, gen. n. Simile generi "*Crex*" dicto, sed rostro longiore, culmine digito interno æquali, distinguendum.

Typus *A. concolor* (Gosse).

ANUROLIMNAS, gen. n. Digito medio cum ungue longiore quam culmen, rectricibus haud evidentibus, mollibus, decompositis, a tectricibus caudalibus celatis, distinguendum.

Typus *A. castaneiceps* (Scl. & Salv.).

POLIOLIMNAS, gen. n. Simile generi "*Porzana*" dicto, sed secundariis primariisque æqualibus, alis pedibusque fortibus, illis tarso et digitis æquantibus, distinguendum.

Typus *P. cinereus* (V.).

MICROTRIBONYX, gen. n. Simile generi "*Tribonyx*" dicto, sed alis robustis, primariis quam cubitales longioribus, distinguendum.

Typus *M. ventralis* (Gould).

By permission of the Hon. WALTER ROTHSCHILD, Dr. SHARPE was enabled to lay on the table some specimens of *Ocydromi* belonging to the Rothschild Museum. These were from the Buller collection, and were supposed to illustrate the species of *Ocydromus* recognized by Sir Walter Buller in his second edition of the 'Birds of New Zealand'; but Dr. Sharpe found it very difficult to follow the author in his conclusions, and he infinitely preferred the more simple view as to the number of species which had been adopted in the *first* edition of the 'Birds of New Zealand.'

In the second edition Sir Walter Buller, after discussing at some length the number of species, which had been debated between Professor Hutton and himself, came to the conclusion that five species should be recognized, viz.:—*O. greyi*, sp. nov.; *O. fuscus* (Du Bus); *O. earli*, Gray; *O. australis* (Sparrman); *O. brachypterus* (Lafr.). The plates in Sir Walter Buller's work did not help much towards the identification of the species; for although in nearly every case the actual specimens figured were now in the Rothschild collection, it was almost impossible to recognize them in the chromo-lithographic plates themselves. The question was further complicated by the misleading way in which the species were arranged in the book referred to. Thus, between *O. greyi* and *O. earli* (the latter not being even figured) was interposed *O. fuscus*, the most distinct of all the Weka Rails; so that the idea was conveyed that *O. greyi* of Buller and *O. earli* of Gray were widely different species, whereas Dr. Sharpe stated that, in his opinion, they were not distinguishable. Sir Walter Buller wished to restrict the true *O. earli* to the South Island, because it seemed to be identical with some specimens procured by Mr. Reischek in the latter island. As a matter of fact, however, the type specimen of *O. earli* was a young bird; and even if there were two species

inhabiting the North and South Islands respectively, Dr. Sharpe maintained that it would be perfectly impossible to say to which of these species the young birds belonged. After comparing two of Mr. Reischek's South-Island specimens in the Rothschild collection, supposed by Sir Walter Buller to be the true *O. earli*, with the series of so-called *O. grèyi* from the North Island, Dr. Sharpe admitted his inability to separate them even as races. With regard to *O. australis* the question of races was much more difficult, and at first sight it would appear that two well-defined forms could be distinguished—one a sandy-tinted bird, and the other a cinnamon-tinted one. Between these two, however, there appeared to be every possible link and gradation of colour; so that it was impossible to define any races or subspecies. Sir Walter Buller, in his second edition, had indeed hinted that altitude and locality had something to do with the variations in plumage; but the want of labels and definite localities in the specimens of the Buller collection prevented Dr. Sharpe from drawing any satisfactory conclusion.

While speaking of the genus *Ocydromus*, Dr. Sharpe remarked that the so-called *Ocydromus sylvestris*, Sclater, from Lord Howe Island, was not an *Ocydromus* in his opinion, but a *Cabalus*, congeneric with *Cabalus dieffenbachi* from the Chatham Islands, and should therefore be called *Cabalus sylvestris*.

Mr. SEEBOHM made remarks on the Geographical Distribution of British Birds, recognizing 401 species and 13 sub-species as having more or less claim to be admitted to the list.

The next Dinner will take place on February 15th, at the Restaurant Frascati (Krasnopolsky), 32 Oxford Street, W., at 7 o'clock.

(Signed)

P. L. SCLATER,	R. BOWDLER SHARPE,	HOWARD SAUNDERS,
Chairman.	Editor.	Sec. & Treas.

BULLETIN

OF THE

BRITISH ORNITHOLOGISTS' CLUB.

No. VI.

THE fifth meeting of the Club was held at the Restaurant Frascati, 32 Oxford Street, on Wednesday, the 15th of February, 1893.

Chairman: P. L. SCLATER, F.R.S.

Members present:—E. BIDWELL, H. E. DRESSER, H. O. FORBES, W. R. OGILVIE-GRANT, Col. L. HOWARD IRBY, Dr. ST. GEORGE MIVART, F.R.S., E. NEALE, H. J. PEARSON, F. PENROSE, Capt. SAVILE REID, HOWARD SAUNDERS (*Treas.*). R. BOWDLER SHARPE, HENRY SEEBOHM, J. T. TRISTRAM-VALENTINE.

Guests: C. FLETCHER, ERNST HARTERT, CHARLES HOSE.

Mr. H. E. DRESSER exhibited on behalf of Mr. JOHN WHITEHEAD a specimen of a *Cryptolopha* from the island of Palawan, which Dr. Sharpe had identified as *Cryptolopha montis* (cf. 'Ibis,' 1888, p. 199). Mr. Whitehead, however, proposed to separate it from the Kina-Balu species, on account of its yellow rump, and called it

CRYPTOLOPHA XANTHOPYGIA, sp. n.

Similis *C. montis*, sed rostro crassiore et uropygio sulphureo distinguenda.

Hab. in montibus insulæ Palawanensis.

[March 1st, 1893.]

Mr. SEEBOHM exhibited an egg supposed to be that of the Knot (*Tringa canutus*) taken near Disco in Greenland.

A communication was read from Mr. OSBERT SALVIN, F.R.S., on two new species of birds from Nicaragua, as follows:—

“In a collection of birds recently sent by Mr. W. B. Richardson from Nicaragua, several interesting species are represented which, so far as I know, have not hitherto been noticed in Nicaragua. Thus we find *Thryophilus costaricensis*, the Costa Rican form of *T. castaneus*, as well as *T. thoracicus* and *Thryothorus atrigularis*, both of which, however, have been noticed at Greytown. Skins of a *Cyphorhinus* from Santo Domingo, in Chontales, differ from *C. lawrencii* and may be described as

“*CYPHORHINUS RICHARDSONI*, sp. n.

“♂ *C. lawrencii* affinis, sed supra pallidior, et loris, sicut gula, distincte castaneis, necnon tectricibus alarum minoribus vix transfasciatis distinguendus.

“Mr. Richardson also sends a specimen of *Piprites griseiceps* from San Carlos, which is only the second we have seen; and, along with several interesting Formicariidæ, an example of a new *Rhopoterpe*, a genus not yet included in the Central-American fauna. This we propose to call

“*RHOPOTERPE STICTOPTERA*, sp. n.

“♂ *R. torquatae* affinis et ejusdem stature necnon coloribus plerumque similibus; sed capite summo obscuriore, uropygio et cauda fuscioribus, remigibus in pogonio externo ad apicem cervino distincte notatis, maculis celatis in pogonio interno cervinis (nec albis), et tectricibus majoribus late cervino terminatis distinguendus.

“*Hab.* Nicaragua; Santo Domingo.

“We also find a single specimen of *Conurus finschi*, originally described from Panama specimens; and a pair, taken at Leon, of the pretty little *Gampsonyx swainsoni*, a well-known bird in South America, but quite new to the Central-American fauna.”

A second communication from Mr. SALVIN related to a new species of Petrel.

In the collection of birds made by Mr. Hawkins on the Chatham Islands were two specimens of an *Æstrelata* belonging to a species allied to *Æ. cooki*, but which differed in several marked characters. The skins were not quite adult, but were marked male and female; the birds were shot on the south-east island on the 8th of May, 1892. Mr. Salvin proposed to describe the species as follows:—

ÆSTRELATA AXILLARIS, sp. n.

Æ. cooki affinis, sed minor; rostro brevior et magis robusto: supra pallidior, tectricibus alarum mediis cinerascentibus albo limbatis, rectricibus lateralibus magis cinereis; axillaribus et tectricibus alarum secundariis subtus nigris: rostro nigro, pedibus carneis, digitis et palamis plerumque nigris ad basin carneis. Long. tota circa 12·0 poll., alæ 8·3, caudæ rectr. med. 3·8, rectr. lat. 3·2, rostri a rictu 1·3, tarsi 1·2, dig. med. cum ungue 1·5.

Hab. Chatham Islands.

Mr. E. HARTERT exhibited the type-specimens of *Hemignathus lanaiensis*, Rothschild, from Lanai, described at the last Meeting of the Club, as well as examples of its nearest allies.

Mr. HARTERT also exhibited the skin of a Goose, supposed by him to be a hybrid between *Bernicla brenta* and *Anser albifrons*.

Mr. HENRY SEEBOHM gave a short explanation of a theory propounded by Dr. Nicholski, of St. Petersburg, to account for the variation in the shape of birds' eggs.

Mr. W. R. OGILVIE-GRANT made some remarks on the classification of the Game Birds and on the changes of the plumage in the *Tetraonidæ*.

Mr. SCLATER drew attention to the protected district round Aden as being very convenient for an ornithological

excursion, and a place where it was evident, from Lieut. Barnes' recent article in 'The Ibis,' that much more good work remained to be done.

The next Dinner will take place on March 15th, at the Restaurant Frascati (Krasnopolsky), 32 Oxford Street, W., at 7 o'clock.

(Signed)

P. L. SCLATER,	R. BOWDLER SHARPE,	HOWARD SAUNDERS,
<i>Chairman.</i>	<i>Editor.</i>	<i>Sec. & Treas.</i>

BULLETIN

OF THE

BRITISH ORNITHOLOGISTS' CLUB.

No. VII.

THE sixth meeting of the Club was held at the Restaurant Frascati, 32 Oxford Street, on Wednesday, the 15th of March, 1893.

Chairman : ST. GEORGE MIVART, F.R.S.

Members present :—E. BIDWELL, P. CROWLEY, H. E. DRESSER, W. R. OGILVIE-GRANT, F. PENROSE, ROBERT H. READ, P. L. SCLATER, F.R.S., J. T. TRISTRAM-VALENTINE.

Guests : E. HARTERT, C. HOSE, Prof. G. MARTORELLI.

On behalf of the Hon. WALTER ROTHSCHILD, Mr. E. HARTERT exhibited the type specimens of a new genus and species of Fringilline bird from the Sandwich Islands. Mr. Rothschild proposed for it the name of *Pseudonestor xanthophrys*.

PSEUDONESTOR, gen. nov.

This genus is nearest allied to *Psittacirostra*, but differs in the following points :—

1. Male and female are similar in colour and markings, whereas they are quite differently coloured in *Psittacirostra*.

2. The female is considerably smaller than the male, whereas the sexes are similar in size in *Psittacirostra*.

3. The principal difference is that, whereas the female of *Pseudonestor* has a beak similar to that of *Psittacirostra* though much more curved, the male of *Pseudonestor* has an

[March 28th, 1893.]

enormously hooked bill, much resembling in shape that of a Nestor Parrot, the maxilla being nearly twice the length of the mandible. In *Psittacirostra*, on the other hand, the bills of the sexes are the same.

PSEUDONESTOR XANTHOPHRYS, sp. nov.

Adult male. Top of head and whole upper surface bright olive-green. Lores and superciliary stripe golden yellow. Throat and breast dull yellow, with an olive tinge, which is strongly pronounced on the flanks; under tail-coverts yellow, under wing-coverts yellowish white. Wings and tail blackish brown, each feather bordered with olive-green. Wing 3 inches, tail 1·9, culmen 1·1, lower mandible 0·5, tarsus 0·9.

Adult female. Similar to the male in colour, but much more grey on the back and the abdomen much more tinged with olive. Wing 2·6 to 2·7 inches, tail 1·6, culmen 0·65, lower mandible 0·4, tarsus 0·8.

“ Iris dark hazel; upper mandible dark grey, basal half paler; feet slate-colour, soles orange ” (*Palmer*).

Hab. Island of Maui, Sandwich Islands.

Mr. HARTERT also exhibited some interesting specimens of birds from the Sandwich Islands and Laysan :—*Rhodacanthis palmeri* and *R. flaviceps*, Rothsch., from Hawaii; *Telespiza cantans*, Wilson, and *T. flavissima*, Rothsch., from Laysan; *Chloridops kona*, Wilson, from Hawaii; *Loxioides bailleui*, Oust., from Hawaii.

A communication from Dr. BOWDLER SHARPE referred to the distribution of the Fin-feet (*Heliornithidæ*). He pointed out that hitherto the Burmese *Podica personata* had been considered to be congeneric with *Podica senegalensis* of Africa. Dr. Sharpe showed, however, that its affinities lay with the American *Heliornis fulica*, which had the same-shaped bill and wings and the same soft tail, very different from the stiff-ribbed rectrices of *P. senegalensis*. The webbing of the toes was different in the two genera, and

Dr. Sharpe proposed for the Burmese species the new generic name of

HELIOPAIS, gen. n.

H. similis generi '*Heliornis*' dicto, sed digitis tantum ad basin palmatis nec flavo fasciatis distinguendus.

Typus. *Podica personata*, Gray.

Dr. SHARPE also communicated the diagnoses of some apparently new genera of Cranes (*Gruidæ*), as follows:—

1. LIMNOGERANUS, gen. n.

Genus simile generi '*Grus*' dicto, sed genis anticis nudis, pileo usque ad nucham nudo, loris nudis, regione suboculari et postoculari plumosâ distinguendum.

Typus. *Limnogeranus americanus* (L.).

2. SARCOGERANUS, gen. n.

Genus simile præcedenti, sed pileo antico tantum nudo, pileo postico plumoso, genis posticis quoque plumosis, loris et regione oculari nudis distinguendum.

Typus. *Sarcogeranus leucogeranus* (Pall.).

3. PSEUDOGGERANUS, gen. n.

Genus simile generi '*Antigone*' dicto, sed regione paroticâ genisque plumosis, regione supra- et infra-oculari et faciei lateribus nudis, collo postico plumoso, usque ad verticem anticam producto, distinguendum.

Typus. *Pseudogeranus leucauchen* (T.).

Mr. HARTERT laid on the table some specimens of a new Finch which he had discovered during his recent visit to the Dutch West India Islands. He proposed to call it

EUETHEIA SHARPEI, sp. nov.

♂. *E. bicolori* affinis, differt colore nigro supra ad frontem restricto, nec ad occiput extenso, notæi colore pallidiore, pectore nigro minus clariore.

♀. *E. bicolori* simillima.

Al. 2 ad 2.15 poll.

Hab. Bonaire, Curaçao, Aruba.

Mr. E. BIDWELL exhibited the humerus of a Coot, which showed a comminuted fracture afterwards completely healed.

Mr. ROBERT READ made some remarks on the changes of plumage in the Black-headed Gull (*Larus ridibundus*), and exhibited the head of a recently killed specimen which clearly proved that the black hood was gained in the spring by a change of colour in some of the feathers as well as by a complete moult in others.

The next Dinner will take place on April 19th, at the Restaurant Frascati (Krasnopolsky), 32 Oxford Street, W., at 7 o'clock.

(Signed)

ST. GEORGE MIVART,	R. BOWDLER SHARPE,	HOWARD SAUNDERS,
<i>Chairman.</i>	<i>Editor.</i>	<i>Sec. & Treas.</i>

BULLETIN

OF THE

BRITISH ORNITHOLOGISTS' CLUB.

No. VIII.

THE seventh meeting of the Club was held at the Restaurant Frascati, 32 Oxford Street, on Wednesday, the 19th of April, 1893.

Chairman: P. L. SCLATER, F.R.S.

Members present:—E. BIDWELL, P. CROWLEY, H. E. DRESSER, W. R. OGILVIE-GRANT, ST. GEORGE MIVART, F.R.S., H. J. PEARSON, F. PENROSE, ROBERT H. READ, HOWARD SAUNDERS (*Treasurer*), HENRY SEEBOHM, R. BOWDLER SHARPE, G. E. SHELLEY, J. STONEHAM, J. T. TRISTRAM-VALENTINE.

Guests: E. HARTERT, W. HARTMANN, R. B. NEWTON, HON. WALTER ROTHSCHILD, W. H. SIMPSON.

Mr. W. R. OGILVIE-GRANT exhibited some skins of rare species of Game-Birds, the principal being *Caccabis magna*, Prjev., and *Phasianus satscheunensis*, Prjev., specimens of which had recently been sent in exchange to the British Museum by Dr. Pleske.

Mr. ERNST HARTERT exhibited a new Scops-Owl, which he characterized as follows:—

PISORHINA SOLOKENSIS, sp. n.

Top of head and neck deep brown, nearly blackish; ear-

[May 1st, 1893.]

tufts white, with black on the tips and outer webs of the feathers; a white line, varied with some small blackish spots, extending from the ear-tufts over the eyes, and meeting on the forehead; a white spot on the occiput; a broad, whitish, nuchal band and another one on the lower hind neck. Back and rump blackish brown, with pale rusty brown spots and blotches. Rectrices similar in colour to the back, but somewhat duller. Primaries deep brown, with very pale brown, almost whitish, spots along the outer webs; secondaries spotted on both webs. Wing-coverts deep blackish brown, with very large white spots on the outer webs. Throat and breast mixed pale brown, rusty, blackish, and whitish, more albescent towards the abdomen. Lower abdomen, vent, and under tail-coverts white. Tarsal plumes nearly white. Under wing-coverts brown and white. Toes entirely bare up to the tarsus, which is thickly feathered, yellowish brown (in skin). Bill whitish horn-colour (in skin). Total length about 10 inches, wing 6·7, tail 3·1, tarsus 1·2, middle toe 0·9, culmen 1·2.

Hab. Hills of Solok, west coast of Sumatra.

Remarks. The type specimen belongs to the Stuttgart Museum, and was sent me for comparison by Count von Berlepsch, who believed it to be new to science. Its nearest ally is *Scops everetti*, from which it is chiefly distinguished by the great amount of white on the ear-tufts and wing-coverts and by the white bands on the neck, as well as by the pure white lower abdomen and whitish tarsal plumes.

I am indebted to Professor Lampert, of the Stuttgart Museum, and to Count Berlepsch, for the opportunity of describing this new species from an island in the natural history of which I am particularly interested.

The Hon. WALTER ROTHSCHILD exhibited an example of a new species of Rail, which he described as follows:—

RALLUS MUELLERI, sp. n.

Upper surface of head, occiput, and neck brownish red, faintly and irregularly striated with black; back and rump

bright chestnut, with the centres of the feathers black; wings brownish black, faintly edged with rufous grey; cheeks reddish grey; centre of the throat reddish white; lower part of throat and breast rufous grey; flanks, abdomen, and under tail-coverts black, each feather tipped with pale rufous, and with two white bands; tail rufous, with indistinct grey bands. Wing 3·3 inches, culmen 1·1, tarsus 1·1, central toe with claw 1·3, tail 1·3.

Hab. Auckland Island, south of New Zealand.

Remarks. This little Rail in general appearance resembles *Rallus lewini* from Australia, but on comparison presents so many important differences that it might almost be separated generically. The chief distinguishing feature of the new species is the enormous development of the feathers on the back and rump, which have become a huge bunch like that of the Puff-birds (*Bucco*) of South America.

The single specimen was sent for description by Count von Berlepsch, who considered it to belong to a new species. It is the property of the Stuttgart Museum. It is named in honour of the famous botanist, Baron von Müller, of Melbourne, who presented the specimen.

The Hon. WALTER ROTHSCHILD exhibited three new birds which he had lately received from his collector in the Sandwich Islands, and characterized them as follows:—

ACRULOCERCUS BISHOPI, sp. n.

Adult male. Head and occiput black, with a slight gloss; shafts of the feathers rather paler. Rest of the upper and entire under surface smoky black, with narrow white shaft-lines to the feathers. Axillary tufts smaller than in *A. nobilis*, but also bright yellow. Ear-coverts with an elongated tuft of very narrow feathers about an inch long and of a deep golden yellow. Under tail-coverts golden yellow. Under wing-coverts sooty black, with indistinct white patches. Tail shorter than in *A. nobilis*, but more pointed, as in *A. apicalis*. Total length about 11 inches, wing 4·5, tail 6·5, tarsus 1·5, culmen 1·4.

Adult female. Similar to the male, but considerably smaller. Wing 4 inches, tail 5, tarsus 1·35, culmen 1·2.

Hab. Island of Molokai.

Named in honour of Mr. Bishop, of Honolulu.

HIMATIONE NEWTONI, sp. n.

Closely allied to *H. montana* of Lanai, but has the upper surface dark olive-green instead of olive-yellow.¹ Rump and upper tail-coverts green instead of bright yellow. The yellow on the forehead is much less extended. The under-parts, instead of being entirely yellow, are only yellow in the central area; flanks and sides of body olive-green. Under tail-coverts yellowish white instead of yellow as in *H. montana*. Wing 2·5 to 2·6 inches, tail 2 (2·75 in *H. montana*, according to Mr. Scott Wilson), tarsus 0·87, culmen 4·75.

Hab. Island of Maui.

HIMATIONE WILSONI, sp. n.

Similar to *H. stejnegeri* of Kauai, but smaller, the beak considerably less and straighter, in this respect resembling *H. virens* of Hawaii. General colour more yellowish, especially on the rump and under surface. *Female* paler than the male. Wing 2·45 inches, tail 1·65 (nearly 2 inches in *H. stejnegeri*), culmen 0·55 (nearly or fully 0·8 in *H. stejnegeri*), tarsus 0·8.

Hab. Island of Maui.

Dr. BOWDLER SHARPE stated that during a recent visit to Leyden he had examined the type of *Rallus sandwichensis* of Latham, and wished to apologize to Dr. Hartlaub for having suggested that the bird was probably the same as *Pennula ecaudata*. The specimen had probably faded considerably from its original colour, as appeared to be proved by the deep vinous chestnut of the lower abdomen and vent, these parts having been more shaded from the light, and here the colour of the under surface approximated to that of *P. ecaudata*. The rest of the under surface was of a rusty vinous colour, and seemed to be much as Latham described it originally. Nothing, however, could have altered

the colour of the back, which still retained the streaked appearance indicated by Latham.

Dr. Sharpe also stated that the type of *Grus cinerea longirostris*, T. & S., in the Leyden Museum, showed that this name applied to *Grus mexicana* and not to *Grus canadensis*, as was generally supposed to be the case.

Mr. SCLATER made some remarks on the splendid series of mounted birds, illustrative of the Italian avifauna, which had been collected for the Museum of the Reale Istituto degli Studii Superiori, of Florence, by Dr. E. H. Giglioli. The most recent addition to the ornis of Italy was stated to be *Lanius algeriensis*.

He also mentioned the migratory birds which had visited the s.s. 'Oruba,' between Gibraltar and Malta, from March 29th to April 1st. He had been disappointed at the small numbers observed. Those recognized were the Swallow, hen Redstart, Song-Thrush, Wheatear, and Robin. A Nightjar was on the ship for several hours on April 1st, when nearing Naples.

The Hon. WALTER ROTHSCHILD exhibited a curious melanistic variety of a Razorbill (*Alca torda*), and examples of some interesting Asiatic species, *Merula kessleri*, *Ibidorhynchus kaufmanni*, &c.

Mr. ROBERT READ exhibited a Black-headed Gull, which had nearly attained the plumage of the adult, but had the bill and feet of an orange colour.

Dr. BOWDLER SHARPE read a paper, illustrated by diagrams, on fossil birds, showing our present state of knowledge of extinct species.

The next Meeting will take place on May 17th, at the Restaurant Frascati (Krasnopolsky), 32 Oxford Street, W.,

at 8.30 o'clock, when the following communication will be made :—

Mr. H. SAUNDERS.—On the Distribution of Birds in France, considered chiefly with reference to occurrences in Great Britain.

The Dinner will be at 7 P.M.

(Signed)

P. L. SCLATER,	R. BOWDLER SHARPE,	HOWARD SAUNDERS,
<i>Chairman.</i>	<i>Editor.</i>	<i>Sec. & Treas.</i>

BULLETIN

OF THE

BRITISH ORNITHOLOGISTS' CLUB.

No. IX.

THE eighth meeting of the Club was held at the Restaurant Frascati, 32 Oxford Street, on Wednesday, the 17th of May, 1893.

Chairman: HENRY SEEBOHM.

Members present:—E. BIDWELL, W. E. DE WINTON, H. E. DRESSER, H. O. FORBES, W. GRAHAM, E. HARTERT, A. P. LLOYD, F. PENROSE, HON. WALTER ROTHSCHILD, HOWARD SAUNDERS (*Treasurer*), R. BOWDLER SHARPE, CHARLES STONHAM, Col. R. W. STUDDY, J. T. TRISTRAM-VALENTINE, H. M. UPCHER.

Mr. H. O. FORBES exhibited the eggs of some rare species of birds from the Chatham Islands, amongst which were those of *Thinornis novæ zealandiæ* and *Gallinago pusilla*, of which birds the nestlings were also shown. He also exhibited the egg of *Cabalus modestus*, which had been obtained on Mangare, one of the Chatham group, by Mr. Hawkins. The egg was *white*, but its Ralline character was indicated by a faint double spotting of grey and rufous. It measured:—axis 1.45, diam. 1.1.

Mr. FORBES also exhibited adult males, females, and young birds of *Cabalus modestus*, and remarked that there could now be no question of the validity of the species, as distinct

[June 1st, 1893.]

from *C. dieffenbachii*, and he must retract his former opinion (*anteà*, p. xx).

Dr. Bowdler Sharpe observed that it was a singular fact that this little Rail should possess in its adult plumage the exact dress which might have been expected to characterize the young of *C. dieffenbachii*; and even with the evidence now before them it was difficult to believe that the birds were fully adult. Count Salvadori's opinion with regard to the specimen exhibited at the fifth meeting of the Club had now been proved to be the correct one.

The CHAIRMAN read a paper on behalf of Canon Tristram, F.R.S., entitled "An undescribed Species of Snipe from the New Zealand region," in which the author made the following remarks :—

In 1846 Mr. G. R. Gray, in the 'Birds of the Erebus and Terror,' described a Snipe from the Auckland Islands as *Gallinago aucklandica*. There is no evidence that this bird has ever occurred in New Zealand. In 'The Ibis' for 1869, p. 41, Sir W. Buller described a second species from the Chatham Islands as *Gallinago pusilla*. Very few specimens have been received, but the species has twice been obtained in New Zealand (to which it is evidently an occasional wanderer): once by Sir James Hector in the Gulf of Hauraki, and once by Mr. F. B. Hill on Little Barrier Island. All doubts as to its being a distinct species have recently been set at rest by the large number of specimens obtained in the Chatham Islands by the collectors of the Hon. Walter Rothschild and Mr. H. O. Forbes. I have examined more than twenty specimens, and find that all of them agree in every respect, and cannot be confused with the Auckland Island species. But when Sir W. Buller published his second edition of the 'Birds of New Zealand,' he had unfortunately sent back to New Zealand his only specimen from the Chatham Islands, and borrowed from me a specimen which had been obtained by Baron A. von Hügel on the Snares, seventy miles south of the southern extremity of New Zealand. This I had put down as *Gallinago pusilla*, having at that time never seen a

Chatham Island specimen. It is very accurately figured and coloured in Buller's second edition; but it proves to be very different from the true *G. pusilla*. The only other example in existence, so far as I am aware, is a second specimen obtained on the Snares at the same time by Baron A. von Hügel, and in the collection of the Hon. Walter Rothschild. I propose to discriminate it as

GALLINAGO HUEGELI, sp. nov.

G. pileo et loris nigro-fuscis; corpore supra rufescente cervino variegato; plumis rufo strictè marginatis; cervice rufescente, brunneo densè striatâ; pectore et abdomine castaneis brunneo densè fasciatis; remigibus brunneis; rectricibus quatuordecim, tribus externis perangustis cum margine albo; tarsi et pedibus albidis. Long. alæ 4·1, rostri 2, tarsi 9.

Hab. Snares Islands.

This species may at once be distinguished from its congeners by its much redder hue, and especially by the remarkable fineness and delicacy of its markings, the edgings of the upper plumage and the striation and bands on the lower surface being very much smaller, closer, and more distinct. In the other two species the abdomen and thighs are whitish, while in this they are thickly barred. In this species the three outer tail-feathers on each side are attenuated with a white edging. In the others only the two outer pairs of tail-feathers appear to be so attenuated.

There would therefore appear to be three species of *Gallinago* in the islands round New Zealand:—*G. aucklandica* in the Aucklands, *G. pusilla* in the Chathams, and *G. huegeli* in the Snares, all being sedentary, or nearly so, in their several localities. To these further research will probably add a fourth from Antipodes Island, whence a single specimen has been received by Sir Jas. Hector, who stated it to be larger, darker in plumage, and with a more curved bill than the Auckland species. Unfortunately he did not describe it.

I subjoin the measurements of the three species:—

	Bill. inch.	Wing. inch.	Tarsus. inch.
<i>Gal'inago aucklandica</i>	2·2	4·2	1·0
" "	4·1	1·0
<i>G. huegeli</i>	2·0	4·1	·9
<i>G. pusilla</i>	1·7	3·6	·8
"	1·5	3·5	·8
"	1·7	3·5	·8
"	1·6	3·7	·8

The Hon. WALTER ROTHSCHILD exhibited and described a new species of Albatross:—

† DIOMEDEA IMMUTABILIS, sp. n.

Adult. Head, neck, lower rump, and entire under surface pure white; space in front of the eye sooty black; wings and wing-coverts blackish brown; interscapular region, back, and upper part of rump paler and more smoky brown; tail black, fading into white at the bases; under wing-coverts mixed, blackish brown and white: "bill grey, darker at base, tip blackish brown; base of under mandible pale yellow; iris brown; tarsi and feet fleshy pink" (*H. C. Palmer*). Wing 19 inches, bill 4, tarsus 3·2, middle toe with claw 4·3.

This Albatross belongs to the typical section of *Diomedea* as limited by Mr. Salvin, and is at once distinguished by attaining the coloration of the adult bird in the first plumage. The young in down is pale brown with a blackish-brown bill.

Hab. Laysan Island, North Pacific.

Mr. HOWARD SAUNDERS made some remarks upon the distribution of Birds in France, especially with reference to some species which passed beyond that country as far as Great Britain. He pointed out that a great part of France consisted of elevated table-land, and that one main line of migration passed along the Rhone Valley and across the Langres Plateau on the east; while on the west side the line ran parallel with the coast until it was deflected east-

ward by the high ground in Brittany and Manche—so that the Channel Islands received few visits from rarities. In Normandy, however, *Tichodroma muraria*, *Gyps fulvus*, *Larus melanocephalus*, and many other unusual visitants to England had occurred several times; *Passer petronia*, *Emberiza cia*, *Ægithalus pendulinus*, and *Vultur monachus* had also been obtained, while *Aquila pennata* had even bred there. On the other hand, *Picus martius*, said—falsely as he believed—to have occurred in England, had never been met with in Normandy. He further remarked upon the Brenne district in the centre of France as promising an unusually fine field for ornithologists, and mentioned some limestone cliffs in the Cevennes, which were undoubtedly frequented by Vultures, although proof of their breeding there was as yet wanting.

Mr. OSBERT SALVIN, F.R.S., contributed descriptions of two supposed new species of *Metallura* from Ecuador, which he proposed to call:—

1. *METALLURA ATRIGULARIS*, sp. n.

- ♂ ad. Similis *M. primolinæ* sed gula media intense nigra plumis ad basin castaneis et medialiter fascia transversa angusta amethystina notatis. Aliter fera ut in sp. cit.
 ♀. Gula inornata, rectricibus lateralibus albido terminatis.
 Long. alæ 2·2, caudæ 1·5, rostri a rictu 0·65.

Hab. Ecuador: Hills near Sigsig, not far from Cuenca, alt. 12,000 feet (*O. T. Baron*).

2. *METALLURA BARONI*, sp. n.

- ♂ ad. Supra saturate cupreo-viridis, capite obscuriore; subtus cum tectricibus subcaudalibus ejusdem coloris; gula tota saturate amethystina micanti; cauda saturate viridi infra nitentiore. Long. alæ 2·2, caudæ 1·4, rostri a rictu 0·65.
 ♀ ad. Mari similis sed subtus plumis omnibus ad basin cervini abdomine toto maculis discalibus obscure viridi; gula maculis saturate amethystinis notatis; rectricibus externis vix sordide albo-terminatis.

Hab. Ecuador: Hills near Cuenca, alt. 12,000 feet (*O. T. Baron*).

Mr. O. T. Baron had recently submitted to Mr. Salvin beautifully prepared specimens of both sexes of each of these species, which are quite distinct from any of the other species known to him. Both of them belong to the same section of the genus as *M. primolina*.

Dr. BOWDLER SHARPE proposed the following new genera for the *Otides* or Bustards :—

HETEROTIS, gen. n. Simile generi "*Compsotis*" dicto, sed tarso brevi distinguendum.

Typus est *Heterotis vigorsi* (Smith).

Other species belonging to this new genus were *H. rueppelli* (Wahlb.) and *H. humilis* (Blyth).

NEOTIS, gen. n. Simile generi "*Lissotis*" dicto, sed rostro longiore, culmine digitum medium cum ungue excedente.

Typus est *Neotis ludwigi* (Rüpp).

Other species of this genus were *N. burchelli* (Heugl.), *N. denhami* (Childr.), *N. caffra* (Licht.), and *N. heuglini* (Hartl.).

HOUBAROPSIS, gen. n. Simile generi "*Houbara*" dicto, sed plumis jugularibus valde elongatis, pileo nucaque aliter cristatis, tarsis longissimis distinguendum.

Typus est *Houbaropsis bengalensis* (Gm.).

The Hon. WALTER ROTHSCHILD exhibited a fine pair of *Paradisea gulielmi secundi* from Kaiser Wilhelm's Land in N.E. New Guinea.

Mr. H. O. FORBES wished to make a correction with reference to the genus he had described at a former Meeting of the B. O. C. as *Diaphorapteryx*. He had accepted the opinion of Prof. Newton that the remains from Mauritius and those from the Chatham Islands belonged to distinct genera, and adopted his suggestion of the name *Diaphorapteryx*; but after personally examining the Mauritian remains at Cambridge, Mr. Forbes could not see his way to agree that the two forms were generically different. He was therefore constrained to discard his new genus and to

reinstate that of *Aphanapteryx* for the Ocydromine remains from both of the above-named islands.

Mr. Forbes also exhibited the Dinornithine tibiae on which he had based a new genus, *Palæocasuaris*, and pointed out that the bone differed from the tibia of *Dinornis* (in its widest sense) in being straighter and less twisted on itself, so that the position of the ridge forming the inner wall of the groove for the tendons of the extensor muscles ran along the inner side of the bone, as in *Casuaris*. As in the latter genus also, it took a marked bend inwards and backwards before joining the epicondylar crest, while a line joining the centre point between the distal condyles and the epicondylar ridge left a considerable space between it and the wall of the groove. There was no intercondylar eminence in the intercondylar channel, and the orifice of the extensor foramen opened more longitudinally than in *Dinornis* and pointed downwards. Mr. Forbes described two species, *P. haasti* and *P. velox*, distinguishing them by their size.

The next Meeting will take place on June 21st, at the Restaurant Frascati (Krasnopolsky), 32 Oxford Street, W., at 8.30 o'clock, when the Treasurer will make a financial statement. The Dinner will be at 7 P.M.

(Signed)

HENRY SEEBOHM,	R. BOWDLER SHARPE,	HOWARD SAUNDERS,
<i>Chairman.</i>	<i>Editor.</i>	<i>Sec. & Treas.</i>

BULLETIN

OF THE

BRITISH ORNITHOLOGISTS' CLUB.

No. X.

THE ninth meeting of the Club was held at the Restaurant Frascati, 32 Oxford Street, on Wednesday, the 21st of June, 1893.

Chairman : P. L. SCLATER, F.R.S.

Members present :—R. S. CLARKE, H. E. DRESSER, H. O. FORBES, W. R. OGILVIE GRANT, E. HARTERT, A. P. LOYD, E. NEALE, FRANK PENROSE, R. H. READ, HON. WALTER ROTHSCHILD, HOWARD SAUNDERS (*Treas.*), H. SEEBOHM, R. BOWDLER SHARPE, E. CAVENDISH TAYLOR, J. T. TRISTRAM-VALENTINE.

Guests : T. F. ALTHAUS, J. S. WHITAKER (of Palermo).

THE TREASURER stated that, out of 200 Members of the British Ornithologists' Union resident in the United Kingdom, no fewer than 85 had joined and paid their subscriptions to the B. O. Club since the first intimation of its formation. He proposed two Bye-laws, which were adopted *nem. con.*

A letter received from Prof. ALPHONSE MILNE-EDWARDS stated that his attention had been called by the Editor to the fact that the genera *Pelargopsis* and *Tachyornis*, as

[July 4th, 1893.]

proposed by him, had been preoccupied; he therefore wished to propose for *Pelargopsis* the amended name of *Pelargocrex*, and for *Tachyornis* the amended name of *Belornis*.

Dr. BOWDLER SHARPE exhibited the type specimen of *Rallus plateni*, which had been lent to him by Professor W. Blasius. This fine Wood-Rail had been discovered by the well-known traveller Dr. Platen, at Rurukan in Minahasa, W. Celebes. It was singularly like *Aramides* in appearance and build, while the barring of the flanks recalled *Hypotaenidia*. Its long bill proclaimed it to belong to the section of Rails which included *Gymnocrex*, *Aramides*, *Megacrex*, and *Habroptila*; but its closest ally was evidently the South-American *Aramides*, on which account Dr. Sharpe proposed to call the genus

ARAMIDOPSIS, gen. n.

Genus simile generi "*Aramides*" dicto, sed rostro longiore et graciliore, ad basin hallucem haud æquante, et sulco nasali longius producto distinguendum.

Typus est *Aramidopsis plateni* (Blasius).

The bill was very long and slender, and of nearly equal width the whole way, so that when measured at the base it was found to be less than the hind toe, whereas in *Aramides* the depth of the bill at base was about equal to the hind toe.

Dr. BOWDLER SHARPE also drew attention to the following new species of birds, which Mr. Hose had recently received from Mount Kalulong, in Sarawak, for which Dr. Sharpe proposed the following names:—

TURDINUS KALULONGÆ, sp. n.

Similis *T. magnirostri*, sed pileo infuscato, gutture imo et præpectore toto cinereis minimè striolatis distinguendus.
Long. tot. 6 poll., culm. 0·65, alæ 3·3, caudæ 2·8, tarsi 0·8.

TURDINUS TEPHROPS, sp. n.

Similis *T. sepiario*, sed pileo saturatè griseo haud dorso concolori, hypochondriis et subcaudalibus latè cervinis, et gutture imo et præpectore cinereo striatis distinguendus.
Long. tot. 5·2 poll., culm. 0·8, alæ 3·0, caudæ 1·55, tarsi 1·1.

GLAUCIDIUM BORNEENSE.

G. simile G. brodiei et *G. sylvatico*, sed ab ambobus fasciâ cervicali albâ distinguendum. Long. tot. 6·0 poll., culm. 0·55, alæ 3·65, caudæ 1·9, tarsi 0·8.

A further communication from Dr. Sharpe described a new species of *Spilornis* from Sarawak, with the following diagnosis:—

· SPILORNIS RAJA, sp. n.

Similis *S. sulaensi*, sed fasciis albidis pectoralibus et abdominalibus, axillaribusque valde crebrioribus distinguendus. Long. tot. 18·5 poll., alæ 12·2, caudæ 7·0, tarsi 3·25.

Mr. W. R. OGILVIE GRANT gave an account of a successful expedition which he had made to Banffshire with Capt. Savile Reid, to obtain the nests of the Snow-Bunting (*Plectrophenax nivalis*) and the Dotterel (*Eudromias morinellus*). The probable locality of the breeding-places of these two species had been indicated to him by Mr. F. D. Godman, F.R.S., with such foresight that Mr. Ogilvie Grant had obtained the nests of both species on the first day of his expedition. The nests of these two rare species of British birds would be shortly exhibited in the series of naturally mounted groups at the British Museum.

Mr. SCLATER exhibited a skin of the Grey Phalarope (*Phalaropus fulicarius*), apparently of a bird assuming summer plumage, from Chili, transmitted to him by Dr. R. A. Philippi, of Santiago, C.M.Z.S., and remarked that the occasional visits of this Phalarope to Chili had been already noted by Mr. Salvin (P. Z. S. 1883, p. 429).

Mr. Saunders ('Manual,' p. 551) had stated that the Red-necked Phalarope (*P. hyperboreus*) also occurred in Chili, but Mr. Sclater had not been able to find any authority for this, though Wilson's Phalarope of N. America (*P. wilsoni*) was an occasional visitor to Chili and Patagonia (see Seebohm, 'Plovers,' p. 343, and Berkeley James's 'New List of Chilean Birds,' p. 11).

Mr. SCLATER also exhibited a skin of a rare Pigeon (*Geophaps plumifera*) [cf. Gould, 'Birds of Australia,' v. pl. 69]

from Northern Queensland, one of ten which had been received alive at the Zoological Gardens, Antwerp. Mr. Gould's type of the species was for many years unique, but more recently several specimens had been obtained in North-western Australia by the late Mr. T. H. Bowyer-Bower, and were now in the British Museum.

The Hon. WALTER ROTHSCHILD exhibited specimens of three species of *Chasiempis* from the Sandwich Islands. Of all of these species he had received examples of young and old birds from Mr. Henry Palmer. Mr. Rothschild pointed out that, while most of the genera of Sandwich Island birds were distributed all over the archipelago, the genus *Chasiempis* was confined to the islands of Kauai, Hawaii, and Oahu. While Mr. Sclater had maintained that there was only one species of *Chasiempis* in the Sandwich Islands, Dr. Stejneger had recognized no less than five different forms, this result being attained by separating the rufous-rumped birds, which were the young ones, from the white-rumped birds, which were the adults. Mr. Rothschild pointed out that there were three distinct species, as follows:—

Chasiempis sclateri, of Ridgway, from Kauai; *C. ridgwayi*, Stejneger, from Hawaii; and *C. sandwichensis* (Gmelin), from Oahu.

Mr. ROTHSCHILD also exhibited and described the following species:—

LOXOPS WOLSTENHOLMEI, sp. nov.

This little species can be at once distinguished from *L. coccinea* (Gm.), and *L. ochracea*, Rothsch., by its smaller size and the dull cinnabar-red of the upper surface. The rump and belly are also cinnabar, but strongly flushed with orange. Wings and tail brown, each feather bordered on the outer edge with buffy red. Wing 2·2 inches, tail 1·7.

Hab. Island of Oahu, Sandwich group.

Named after Henry Palmer's companion, who shot the only specimen at present known.

VIRIDONIA MACULATA (Cab.).

This bird was originally described by Professor Cabanis from an adult female and an immature male from Oahu, and placed in the genus *Himatione* (Mus. Hein. i. p. 100, note, 1851).

A large series of this rare species had been sent in April last by Henry Palmer from Oahu, which proved that the bird was not a true *Himatione*, but formed the second species of the genus *Viridonia* (Ann. & Mag. Nat. Hist., July 1892, p. 112).

Adult male. Upper surface bright olive-green; forehead, throat, and under surface bright golden yellow, less bright on the under surface, and fading almost to white at the vent. Flanks slightly mottled with olive-green.

Hab. Island of Oahu, in thick jungle high on the mountains.

ANOUS HAWAIIENSIS, sp. nov.

This species, which is confined to the Hawaiian group of islands, differs from its nearest congener *A. melanogenys*, Gray, in that the grey colour, instead of being confined to the crown of the head, is spread over the neck and interscapular region. The tail and rump also, instead of being black, are pale grey. Under surface of neck also slightly washed with grey, instead of being uniform black as in *A. melanogenys*. The wing in the new species seems to be shorter, varying from 0·5 to 0·75 inch. The beak is slightly stouter and a little less pointed.

Types in Mus. W. Rothschild and in Brit. Mus.

ÆSTRELATA NIGRIPENNIS, sp. nov.

Æ. defilippianæ, Gigl. et Salvad., affinis, sed rostro multo brevior et robustior, ad basin latior; margine alarum subtus latior, nigricanti-griseo; remige externo subtus (parte exposita) in pogonio interno fere omnino nigro, reliquis parte proxima tantum alba; axillaribus albis. Long. tot. circa 12 poll., al. 8·7, caud. rectr. med. 4·1, rectr. later. 3·25, rostri a rictu 1·25, tars. 1·15, dig. med. et int. 1·35, dig. ext. 1·1. (Type in Mus. W. Rothschild.)

Hab. Kermadec Islands.

Obs. This species belongs to the "*Æ. cooki* (Gray)" section of the genus *Æstrelata*, of which *Æ. defilippiana* is also a member. It differs from all its congeners in having a short, stout, wide bill, and in the almost total absence of white on the inner webs of the outer primary beneath, the under wing-coverts, with the exception of a rather wide margin, being white as well as the axillary feathers.

THALASSOGERON SALVINI, sp. nov.

Similis *Th. cauto*, sed rostro multo minore, ad basin minus elevato, plumbescente nec albido, tarsis et digitis brevioribus quoque diagnosendus.

♀ mari similis.

Hab. New Zealand.

This is the "*Diomedea cauta*" of Buller and other writers on New Zealand birds. On comparing my series of specimens with one of Gould's types of *T. cautus* in the British Museum, the differences above pointed out are apparent.

In coloration this species is apparently greyer on the head and neck, the dark loreal mark in front of the eye being very conspicuous. This species, as well as *T. cautus*, belong to Mr. Ridgway's genus *Thalassogeron*, the sides of the culmicorn being nearly parallel to the base and separated from the latericorn by an interval of soft skin.

DIOMEDEA BULLERI, sp. nov.

Thalassogeroni culminato quoad colores similis, sed rostro pallidiore, culmine ad basin latiore, lateribus attingente, culmine omnino flavo; alis subtus niveis.

Hab. New Zealand.

Type in Mus. W. Rothschild.

This is the "*Diomedea culminata*" of Buller and other New Zealand writers, but it differs materially from the true *Thalassogeron culminatus* (Gould), a species of Ridgway's genus *Thalassogeron*, the base of the culmicorn being separated by an interval of soft skin from the latericorn. In this respect the present species is somewhat intermediate between *Diomedea* and *Thalassogeron*, but the base of the

culminicorn, though not so well developed, distinctly spreads and has a well-defined posterior margin.

It is just possible that this species may prove to be *Diomedea gilliana* of Cones, from an unknown locality, but the bill is differently coloured, and the under wing-coverts are white instead of the same colour as the upper surface.

These three species of *Procellariidæ* in my collection were pointed out to me as new by Mr. Osbert Salvin, who kindly confirmed the diagnoses.

The Members then adjourned to the large room at the Frascati Restaurant, where Mr. Rothschild exhibited specimens of all the new species described by him at the Meeting, and called attention to other rare birds from his collection. Among these were examples of *Phalacrocorax featherstoni* of Buller, of which a living example and many skins were shown, as well as skins of *Tetraophasis sechenyi* and *Palæornis salvadorii*.

Mr. Rothschild likewise exhibited living specimens of the various species of *Apteryx*, 9 in number, viz. :—

2	<i>Apteryx mantelli</i> ,	♂ ♀.
2	„ <i>lawryi</i> ,	♂ ♀.
2	„ <i>oweni</i> ,	♂ ♀.
2	„ <i>haasti</i> ,	♂ ♀.
1	„ <i>occidentalis</i> ,	♀.

The following paper was then read, and was illustrated by the exhibition of nearly 100 specimens of *Apteryges* :—

“ Notes on the Genus *Apteryx*.

By the Hon. WALTER ROTHSCHILD.

“ Since my controversy with Mr. H. O. Forbes in the pages of the ‘ Annals and Magazine of Natural History,’ on the subject of *Apteryx haasti*, I have gone exhaustively into the history of the genus *Apteryx*, and I hope soon to publish a complete Monograph on the subject.

“ Possessing, however, a large series of skins, and examples of no less than five species in a living state, I thought it

would be interesting to the Club to exhibit this series of skins, along with the living specimens, and I add a few remarks on the geographical distribution and synonymy of this very strange family of birds.

"Hitherto five species of *Apteryx* have been described and accepted, viz. :—

"*Apteryx australis*, Shaw.

A. mantelli, Bartlett (syn. *A. bulleri*, Sharpe).

A. maximus, Verreaux.

A. oweni, Gould.

A. haasti, Potts.

"On these five species there have been many discussions, especially with regard to *A. mantelli*, *A. haasti*, and *A. maximus*.

"As regards *A. mantelli*, I can only point out that Dr. Otto Finsch maintained that Mr. Bartlett's diagnosis was founded on a false basis, and he, moreover, believed that the North-Island *Apteryx* was barely worthy of subspecific rank. Sir Walter Buller, however, and all other ornithologists who have expressed any opinion on the subject, maintain, and I am convinced rightly, that the North-Island bird is distinct from *A. australis*. But Sir Walter Buller unfortunately misled Dr. Sharpe into re-naming the North-Island bird by omitting to state that, however faint were the characters which Bartlett used to diagnose his species, he most emphatically stated (P. Z. S. 1850, p. 276) that all the specimens of his *A. mantelli* came from the North Island. This fact, I think, establishes without a doubt the priority of Mr. Bartlett's name of *Apteryx mantelli*.

"By many people it has been maintained that *Apteryx haasti* is a natural hybrid between *A. australis* and *A. oweni*. This I believe to be entirely erroneous, because, although at Okarita, where the original specimens of *A. haasti* were obtained, *A. australis* and *A. oweni* were at one time found, the localities whence I have obtained *A. haasti* in some numbers during the last few years are quite uninhabited by the other species. *A. haasti* at the present time inhabits the crater-like valleys between the highlands of the southern and

central mountain-chains in the South Island; but it is also found in isolated places in the King-country in the North Island.

"*Apteryx australis* was formerly abundant all over the lower scrub-covered districts of the South Island, but is now almost exclusively confined to the Dusky-Bay region.

"*Apteryx maximus* is almost a fictitious species, though I am inclined to agree with Prof. Hutton that it was only an overgrown *A. haasti*. The name was published originally, without a description, by Bonaparte in the 'Comptes Rendus,' xliii. p. 841, taken from an unpublished manuscript of Jules Verreaux, and then Prof. Hutton described a foot in his 'Catalogue of the Birds of New Zealand' and ascribed it to this species. Both references, however, distinctly refer to a bird from the *South Island*. In 1890, Sir Walter Buller finally announced that he had discovered the true *A. maximus* on Stewart Island, and I am fortunate in possessing the entire series from his collection; but I most emphatically say that this species cannot be *A. maximus* of Verreaux, and therefore I have much pleasure in naming it *Apteryx lawryi*, after Sir W. Lawry Buller.

"Sir W. Buller fully described this bird before the Wellington Scientific Society. All that I shall add is, therefore, that though the differences between it and *A. australis* are very slight, they are apparently constant, owing, no doubt, to the isolation of the species.

"*Apteryx oweni* is found exclusively on the east coast of the South Island, and there is nothing particular to be said regarding this species.

"On the west coast of the South and North Islands, from one end to the other, occurs, however, a grey *Apteryx*, which has hitherto been confounded with the typical *A. oweni*. This form differs from *A. oweni* in its much larger size (being quite as big as *A. australis*), in its comparatively very small bill, and in the heavy black bars on the feathers. I propose to call this *Apteryx occidentalis*, a subspecies of *A. oweni*.

"So far I consider we shall be justified in accepting the

following as a complete synopsis of the species of *Apteryx* as at present known :—

- “*A. australis*, Shaw. South Island.
A. lawryi, sp. nov. Stewart Island.
A. mantelli, Bartl. North Island.
A. oweni, Gould. East coast, South Island.
A. oweni occidentalis, subsp. n. North Island, and west coast, South Island.
A. haasti, Potts. Central South Island and west of the North Island.
A. maximus, Verr. (sp. dub.). South Island.”
-

The next Meeting of the Club will be held about October 18th, but due notice will be sent to the Members.

An Index and Titlepage to the first volume of the ‘Bulletin’ is in preparation, and will be forwarded to each Member when ready.

(Signed)

P. L. SCLATER,	R. BOWDLER SHARPE,	HOWARD SAUNDERS,
<i>Chairman.</i>	<i>Editor.</i>	<i>Sec. & Treas.</i>

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sylvaticum, *Glaucidium*, lv.
sylvestris, *Cabalus*, xxx.
 —, *Ocydromus*, xxx.
Sylvia nisoria, xi.

Tachyornis, liii.
Telespiza cantans, xxxvi.
 — *flavissima*, xxxvi.
Temnurus niger, xix.
 — *truncatus*, xix.
tephrops, *Turdinus*, liv.
Thalassogeron cautus, lviii.
 — *salvini*, lviii.
thoracicus, *Thryothorus*, xxxii.
Thryophilus castaneus, xxxii.
 — *costaricensis*, xxxii.
Thryothorus atrigularis, xxxii.
 — *thoracicus*, xxxii.
Thyrorhina, xxvii.
Tichodroma muraria, xlix.

torquatus, *Acridotheres*, vii.
 —, *Æthiopsar*, vii.
Tribonyx, xxvii.
Tricholimnas, xxvii, xxviii.
 — *lafresnayanus*, xxviii.
Trichostoma rostratum, vii.
Tringa acuminata, ix.
 — *canutus*, xxxii.
 — *maculata*, ix.
truncatus, *Temnurus*, xix.
Turdinus kalulongæ, liv.
 — *magnirostris*, liv.
 — *sepiarius*, liv.
 — *tephrops*, liv.
tyrannulus, *Herpornis*, xix.
 —, *Myiarchus*, xiii.

Viridonia maculata, lvii.
vulgaris, *Icterus*, xii.
Vultur monachus, xlix.

wagleri, *Conurus*, xi.
whiteheadi, *Merula*, xxv.
wilsoni, *Himatione*, xlii.
 —, *Phalaropus*, lv.
wolstenholmei, *Loxops*, lvi.

xanthopygia, *Cryptolopha*, xxxi.
xanthostomus, *Parus*, vi.

Zapornia, xxvii.
Zosterops anderssoni, v.
 — *neglecta*, xxvi.
 — *palpebrosa*, xxvi.
 — *senegalensis*, v.

CHAIRMAN'S ADDRESS
ON OPENING THE SECOND SESSION
OF THE
BRITISH ORNITHOLOGISTS' CLUB.

(OCTOBER 18, 1893.)

I PROPOSE to open the Second Session of the B. O. C. by offering a few remarks on recent events in the ornithological world. Before doing so, however, I cannot avoid alluding to a sad loss that we have recently experienced. Since our last meeting our list of Members has become one less by the death of Mr. John Tristram Tristram-Valentine, who had been an active Member of the Club since its foundation and had charmed us all by his genial and pleasing company. Tristram-Valentine, although he contributed but little to the scientific literature of Ornithology, had done much to popularize our science by articles in the 'Saturday Review' and in other periodicals.

Turning now to the leading events in Ornithology, I will first call attention to the approaching completion of the great 'Catalogue of Birds' founded on the unrivalled collection of specimens in our National Museum at South Kensington. Twenty-one volumes of this most important work are, I need hardly remind you, already published. As we are informed in the recent Parliamentary Report of the British Museum, Vol. xxii. (Game Birds) by Mr. W. R. Ogilvie Grant, Vol. xxiii. (Rails, Cranes, and Bustards) and Vol. xxiv. (Waders) by Dr. R. B. Sharpe, and Vol. xxv. (Gulls and Petrels) by Mr. H. Saunders and Mr. O. Salvin, are now in preparation.

We may hope, therefore, in the course of another year to see the "beginning of the end" of the Catalogue. I need hardly allude to the importance of a full general index to conclude the work, but we may be quite sure that Dr. Günther has already considered this subject.

In other branches of ornithological literature the most pleasing novelty that has appeared since the termination of our last session is, I think, the first part of Mr. Rothschild's work on the 'Avifauna of Laysan.' A short time ago the very existence of Laysan and its neighbouring islands was hardly known to us. Mr. Rothschild's active collector has produced from these specks of rock a mass of material sufficient to fill a large quarto volume under Mr. Rothschild's elaborate treatment. This serves to prove, if further evidence were necessary, the importance of "island-life" and to show that no islet, however small and however remote, should be allowed to escape the minute investigation of the inquiring naturalist. On a cognate subject I may express a hope that the work of Messrs. Scott-Wilson and Evans on the 'Birds of the Hawaiian Archipelago' will shortly be brought to a conclusion. When this is done our knowledge of the North-Pacific Avifauna may be fairly supposed to have made a very considerable advance.

Another work long expected, Mr. Dresser's volume upon the Rollers, is now, I see, announced for immediate publication, while we may hope that the issue of Mr. Seeböhm's elaborate 'Monograph of the Thrushes' will not be long delayed. It is a pity to withhold from publication such a splendid series of well-drawn illustrations of a favourite group of birds.

As regards ornithological travellers, of which I am glad to say we have always a good supply in the ranks of the B. O. U., Mr. Whitehead has recently departed on a new voyage of discovery to the East, and, as we are informed, will begin his work in Luzon and other islands in the Philippine group. Mr. O. V. Aplin has returned to this country after a successful expedition to Uruguay, and is now engaged in preparing an account of his results for publication in 'The Ibis.'

Mr. J. G. Millais has been exploring the further recesses of Mashonaland in search of the White Rhinoceros, but has doubtless not entirely neglected his favourite Birds. Mr. J. D. de La Touche, of the Chinese Imperial Maritime Customs, has returned to Amoy, but, as he writes to me, is meditating an expedition to Takow in Formosa, where he will no doubt obtain adequate results. Mr. C. Hose has returned to his old quarters on the Baram River, accompanied by his brother, who will devote himself entirely to the further exploration of the mountains of this part of Borneo. To the southern part of the same island our excellent friend and correspondent Mr. Büttikofer, of the Leyden Museum, is now on the point of departure. It is evident, therefore, that good additions to our knowledge of the Ornithology of Borneo are likely to be made. Mr. C. W. Campbell, of the Chinese Consular Service, has returned to Corea, where there is still much work to be done in Natural History. From Mr. H. H. Johnston, C.B., whose headquarters are at Zomba, British Central Africa, I have lately received two large collections of birds, formed by Mr. Alexander Whyte, F.Z.S. Captain Shelley has kindly undertaken the working out of this series, which numbers 1033 specimens referable to 205 species. Amongst these not less than 9 are new to science. Captain Shelley's paper is already in type, and will be published in the first number of 'The Ibis' for next year.

Oologists, of whom there are many in the ranks of the B. O. U., will be pleased to hear that much progress has lately been made with the arrangement of the vast series of birds' eggs in the British Museum, which has been conducted under Mr. Seebohm's superintendence, and that it is expected that the whole will be shortly in working-order and accessible to students. The second cabinet of British birds' eggs was placed in the British Gallery in August last, so that an excellent series of these beautiful and interesting objects is now accessible to the public.

It may interest the Members of the B. O. C. to learn that, being on the Continent in the last week of September this year, I gladly embraced the long-wished-for opportunity

of attending the Anniversary Meeting of the "Allgemeine Deutsche ornithologische Gesellschaft," which commenced at Cassel on the 23rd of that month. I need hardly say that I met with a most friendly reception. Our much esteemed Honorary Member, Graf von Berlepsch, was in the chair, and I had the pleasure of passing several days in company with him, Dr. Reichenow, Herr Nehrkorn, Herr Schalow, Herr Matchie, and other well-known German naturalists. The most important point of discussion was the future of the 'Journal für Ornithologie,' which, as we all know, has been edited for more than forty years by Dr. J. Cabanis. Many interesting specimens of birds and eggs were also exhibited, and the question of a new Catalogue of German Birds was discussed.

Lastly, in concluding these remarks, I may venture to call attention to our own 'List of British Birds.' It is now ten years since this useful Catalogue was prepared and published. After ten years' increase of our knowledge of the subject, it is evident that certain modifications in nomenclature and alterations and additions to the List have become necessary, and I think that the question of the best mode of preparation of a second edition of 'The Ibis List of British Birds' should before long be taken into consideration.

P. L. S.

BULLETIN

OF THE

BRITISH ORNITHOLOGISTS' CLUB.

No. XI.

THE tenth meeting of the Club, being the first meeting of the Second Session, was held at the Restaurant Frascati, 32 Oxford Street, on Wednesday, the 18th of October, 1893.

Chairman : P. L. SCLATER, F.R.S.

Members present :—E. BIDWELL, PHILIP CROWLEY, H. O. FORBES, W. GRAHAM, E. HARGITT, F. J. JACKSON, L. H. IRBY, A. P. LOYD, F. PENROSE, T. DIGBY PIGOTT, C.B., R. H. READ, HOWARD SAUNDERS (*Treasurer*), W. L. SCLATER, R. BOWDLER SHARPE, C. STONHAM, F. W. STYAN, H. A. TERRY, H. T. WHARTON, C. A. WRIGHT.

Guests : MESSRS. CASTLE and C. E. FAGAN.

THE TREASURER reported upon the present condition of the Club, and announced that the number of members was now 96. He proposed "*that Members joining the Club after November 1, 1893, should pay an entrance fee of 5s.*" This resolution was carried unanimously.

MR. PHILIP CROWLEY was elected a Member of the Committee, in the place of the Earl of Gainsborough, who retires in accordance with the Rules.

[October 30th, 1893.]

The CHAIRMAN, in addressing the Club on the opening of the Second Session, alluded to the loss sustained by the death of Mr. J. T. Tristram-Valentine, who had been a consistent supporter of the B. O. C. from the commencement, and whose death had deprived the Club of a genial and valued member. Mr. Selater congratulated his brother-ornithologists on the approaching completion of the British Museum 'Catalogue of Birds.' The most important publication issued since the last meeting of the Club was the 'Avifauna of Laysan,' by the Hon. Walter Rothschild, and it was to be hoped that the present year would witness the completion of the 'Aves Hawaiienses' of Messrs. Scott-Wilson and A. H. Evans. Mr. Dresser was about to publish his long-expected 'Monograph of the Coraciidæ,' a companion volume to his work on the Bee-eaters. Mr. Selater further expressed a hope that Mr. Seebohm's 'Monograph of the Turdidæ' would shortly see the light.

Referring to the members of the B. O. U. engaged in foreign travel, the Chairman said that Mr. John Whitehead had started to explore the interior of Luzon; Mr. Hose was once more in residence in Baram, to continue his researches into the zoology of the mountains of Sarawak; Mr. O. V. Aplin had returned from his visit to Uruguay; Mr. J. G. Millais was engaged in investigations in Mashonaland; Mr. Büttikofer was about to explore Dutch Borneo; and Mr. Campbell had returned to Corea. In the next number of the 'Ibis' would appear the continuation of Capt. Shelley's account of the collections sent from Nyassa-land by Mr. H. H. Johnston, C.B.

The Chairman congratulated Oologists on the approaching completion of the arrangement of the birds' eggs in the Natural History Museum, carried out by Mr. Seebohm. Mr. Selater then gave an account of the recent meeting of the German Ornithological Society at Cassel, at which he had been present. Referring to a new list of the Birds of Germany proposed by that Society, he expressed a hope that before long a revised edition of the B. O. U. List of British

Birds would be prepared either by the B. O. U. or the B. O. C.

Mr. PHILIP CROWLEY exhibited a curious buff-coloured variety of the Whinchat (*Pratincola rubetra*) obtained near Cromer during the late autumn.

Mr. T. DIGBY PIGOTT showed a fine series of Guillemots' eggs, procured from the Bempton Cliffs.

A letter was read from Mr. W. R. OGILVIE GRANT, with reference to a communication from Mr. J. A. Harvie-Brown which had appeared in the last number of the 'Ibis,' respecting the discovery of the Snow-Bunting's nest in Banffshire. Mr. Grant reminded the meeting that he had verbally described the share in the discovery taken by Messrs. L. Hinxman, Eagle Clarke, and others, and stated that a letter would be sent to the 'Ibis' on the subject. The Editor of the 'Bulletin' added that the omission of the names above mentioned was purely accidental.

Mr. F. J. JACKSON exhibited a specimen of a curious Bush-Shrike which he had found on his last expedition into Eastern Africa—a young male, procured by him in the Mauungu Wilderness in December 1891; and on the return journey in April 1892 he obtained an adult male between Tsavo and Kufumika. The species was a dwarf form of *Dryoscopus gambensis*, but was so much smaller that there could be no difficulty in its recognition. Mr. Jackson proposed to call it

DRYOSCOPIUS PRINGLII, sp. n.

Similis *D. gambensi*, sed valde minor: alâ vix 2·75 poll.
(nec 3·7 ut in *D. gambensi*).

Mr. E. HARGITT described a new species of *Picumnus* recently received by the British Museum as

PICUMNUS SALVINI, sp. n.

Similis *P. undulato* ex Guianâ, sed gastræi plumis medialiter nigro-guttatis, margine fusco præinctis: gutturis

plumis nigro apicatis, sed maculâ medianâ nigrâ nullâ distinguendus.

Hab. adhuc ignota.

With regard to the distribution of the South-American species of *Picumnus*, Mr. Hargitt remarked that there were none peculiar to the Patagonian Sub-region; 10 to the Sub-Andean Sub-region; 2 common to the Sub-Andean and Central American Sub-regions; 11 peculiar to the Amazonian Sub-region; 7 to the Brazilian Sub-region; and 1 common to the Amazonian and Brazilian Sub-regions.

Dr. BOWDLER SHARPE stated that during a recent examination of the specimens of *Ardeirallus flavicollis* in the collection of the British Museum, he had discovered that the birds recorded from Bourou and Ceram belonged to a totally different species, closely allied to *Ardeirallus woodfordi*, of Ogilvie Grant, from Guadalcanar; and as the species appeared to be without a name, Dr. Sharpe proposed to call the Ceram bird

ARDEIRALLUS PRÆTERMISSUS, sp. n.

Similis *A. woodfordi*, sed sordidior, brunnescentior, et collo postico brunnescente nec castaneo, et subcaudalibus cineraceis nec arenariis distinguenda. Long. tot. 19 poll., ala 8·2, tarso 2·6, digito medio cum ungue 2·4.

Hab. in insulis Moluccanis, "Ceram" et "Bourou" dictis.

Dr. SHARPE also read a list of the birds obtained by Surgeon-Captain Penton at Suakin in the Red Sea. About 40 miles to the south-west of the town Captain Penton had visited the forest district of Erkowit and had obtained specimens of *Francolinus erkelii*, thereby adding considerably to our knowledge of its northern range. Some of the migratory birds were of considerable interest, as indicating the route by which certain species proceeded towards South Africa. The collection included examples of the following species:—*Argya acacie*, *Corvus scapularis*, *Cuculus canorus* (juv.), *Coccytes glandarius*, *Coracias garrula* (juv.), *Ena*

capensis, *Pterocles lichtensteini*, *Pteroclorus senegallus*,
Numida ptilorhyncha, *Ammoperdix heyi*, *Circus macrurus*,
C. æruginosus, *Melierax polyzonus*, *Buteo ferox*, *Scops gin*,
Asio accipitrinus, *Strix flammea*, *Plotus levaillanti*, *Ardea*
goliath, *A. cinerea*, *Ardeola comata*, *Demiegretta gularis*,
Butorides atricapilla, *Sterna caspia*, *S. albigena*, *S. saundersi*,
Hydrochelidon leucoptera, *Rhynchops flavirostris*, *Ædicnemus*
crepitans, *Chettusia leucura*, *Rhynchæa capensis*, *Hæmatopus*
ostralegus, *Dromas ardeola*, *Cursorius gallicus*, *Houbara*
arabs, *Crex crex*, *Inocotis comata*, *Phænicopterus roseus*.

The next Meeting of the Club will take place on Wednesday, the 15th of November.

(Signed)

P. L. SCLATER,	R. BOWDLER SHARPE,	HOWARD SAUNDERS,
<i>Chairman.</i>	<i>Editor.</i>	<i>Sec. & Treas.</i>

BULLETIN

OF THE

BRITISH ORNITHOLOGISTS' CLUB.

No. XII.

THE eleventh meeting of the Club was held at the Restaurant Frascati, 32 Oxford Street, on Wednesday, the 15th of November, 1893.

Chairman : P. L. SCLATER, F.R.S.

Members present :—E. BIDWELL, W. T. BLANFORD, F.R.S., LEOPOLD FIELD, H. O. FORBES, E. HARGITT, A. P. LOYD, P. W. MUNN, H. J. PEARSON, HOWARD SAUNDERS (*Treas.*), R. BOWDLER SHARPE, G. E. SHELLEY, F. W. STYAN, E. CAVENDISH TAYLOR, HORACE TERRY, A. TREVOR-BATTYE, H. T. WHARTON.

Guests : C. E. FAGAN, Dr. F. HARPER (Chicago), Major ARTHUR TERRY, E. WAKEFIELD.

Mr. SCLATER exhibited and made remarks upon a specimen of what is commonly called a "King" Parrot—*i. e.*, a variety of *Psittacus erithacus* stained with red (see Monteiro's 'Angola,' i. p. 54)—which is said not to be uncommon at Cassange, in the interior of Loanda.

Mr. SCLATER also exhibited specimens of the eggs of two Caprimulgidæ (*Podager nacunda* and *Hydropsalis furcifera*) obtained by Mr. O. V. Aplin in Uruguay.

Mr. F. W. STYAN exhibited the type specimen of the new
[November 28th, 1893.]

Bulbul from Formosa, which he had described as *Pycnonotus taivanus* in 'The Ibis' for 1893 (p. 470).

Mr. W. T. BLANFORD, F.R.S., read a paper on the proper names of Indian Eagles. A discussion ensued on the synonymy of these birds, especially the group of the Spotted Eagles (*Aquila clanga*, *A. maculata*, &c.). Mr. Blanford's paper will be published in 'The Ibis.'

The following communication from Mr. O. SALVIN, F.R.S., on a new Humming-bird was read:—

" ANTHOCEPHALA BERLEPSCHI, sp. nov.

" *A. floricipiti* similis, sed apicibus remigum lateralium late albis nec cervinis, abdomine et tectricibus subcaudalibus grisescentibus nec rufescentibus distinguenda.

" ♀ a femina *A. floricipiti* eodem modo differt.

" *Hab.* Colombia; environs of Bogotá.

" *Mus.* Berlepsch et Brit.

" *Obs.* Graf H. von Berlepsch has sent me a beautiful male specimen of an *Anthocephala* in which he, with his usual acumen, noticed differences from *A. floriceps*, as pointed out above. I have compared it with the type of the latter species, which, with a female of the true *A. floriceps*, is in the British Museum.

" In the same collection are two other skins which, in the Catalogue of Trochilidæ (Cat. Birds Brit. Mus. xvi. p. 172), I placed with *A. floriceps*. One is a male with several of the rectrices missing; the other is a female in poor condition. With Count v. Berlepsch's beautiful male before me, it is evident that both these specimens (*b* and *c*) belong to the bird which I now separate.

" All three are skins of the so-called Bogotá make, and doubtless came from some upland locality within the hunting-grounds of the Bogotá bird-collectors. The two specimens of *A. floriceps* in the Museum were shot at an elevation of 5000 feet above the sea in the Sierra Nevada of Santa Marta."

The Hon. WALTER ROTHSCHILD communicated the following note on *Himatione dolei*:—

“Mr. Scott Wilson, in the ‘Proceedings of the Zoological Society’ for 1891 (p. 166), described, under the name of *Himatione dolei*, a bird from Maui which has not since been identified. Through the kindness of Mr. Wilson I have been enabled to examine his type; and I found, to my astonishment, that it was a very young specimen of the bird which I had named *Palmeria mirabilis*, although no one could possibly have made this out from the description.

“As the type, therefore, proves beyond doubt that Wilson’s bird is merely the young of my *Palmeria*, and as the latter genus is very distinct and has nothing to do with *Himatione*, being a genus of the Meliphagidæ near *Chætoptila* and not one of the Drepanididæ, the name of this peculiar bird must stand henceforth as *Palmeria dolei* (Wils.).”

Dr. BOWDLER SHARPE stated that Dr. Gregory, during his recent expedition to Mount Kenia, had obtained *Pinarochroa hypospodia* and *Nectarinia johnstoni*, at an elevation of 14,000 feet. Dr. Gregory was too much occupied to be able to spare time for collecting birds, but by procuring examples of these two species he had shown that the avifauna of Mount Kenia bears a close relationship to that of Mount Kilimanjaro, where the above-named species had been discovered at an altitude of 14,000 and 11,000 feet by Mr. H. H. Johnston, C.B. Mr. F. J. Jackson had also procured *P. hypospodia* on Mount Elgon at 11,000 feet, but had not met with *Nectarinia johnstoni*.

Dr. BOWDLER SHARPE announced that he had recently examined a collection of birds found by Mr. A. H. Everett in the western islands of the Sulu Archipelago. The following species appeared to be new to science:—

1. *SCOPS SIBUTUENSIS*, sp. n.

S. similis S. mantananensi, sed alis extus vix albo notatis, et remigibus intus vix fasciatis distinguenda. Long. tot. 8·0 poll., alæ 6·0.

Hab. Sibutu Island.

2. *PRIONITURUS VERTICALIS*, sp. n.

P. similis P. flavicanti, sed maculâ verticali scarlatinâ nec coccineâ, pileo argentescenti-cyaneo nec cæruleo, et gastræo flavicanti-viridi distinguendus. Long. tot. 13·0 poll., alæ 7·2, caudæ 3·4, rectr. med. 5·8.

Hab. Tawi-Tawi, Bongao and Sibutu Islands.

3. *DICÆUM SIBUTUENSE*, sp. n.

D. simile D. trigonostigmati, sed gutture saturatè schistaceo, maculâ dorsali aurantiacâ distinguendum. Long. tot. 3·2 poll., culm. 0·45, alæ 2·0, caudæ 0·85, tarsi 0·5.

Hab. Sibutu Island.

4. *EDOLIISOMA EVERETTI*, sp. n.

Mas a mari *E. morionis* ex insulâ Celebensis vix diversus. Fœm. tamen gastræo toto cinereo concolore facilè distinguenda.

Hab. Bongao Island.

Mr. W. T. BLANFORD, F.R.S., stated that he had recently examined an adult specimen of *Circus spilonotus* from Moulmein.

A communication was read from Mr. ABEL CHAPMAN on his experiences of the genus *Lagopus* in the British Islands, Scandinavia, and Spitsbergen. He considered that *Lagopus hyperboreus*, Sund. (*L. hemileucurus*, Gould), of Spitsbergen, was much more closely allied to the Willow-Grouse (*L. albus*) than to the Ptarmigan (*L. mutus*, Montin). It was a larger bird than the Ptarmigan, with stronger beak and feet, browner summer plumage, inhabited comparatively low ground, and uttered a Grouse-like "bec," quite unlike the "croak" of the Ptarmigan.

(Signed)

P. L. SCLATER,	R. BOWDLER SHARPE,	HOWARD SAUNDERS,
<i>Chairman.</i>	<i>Editor.</i>	<i>Sec. & Treas.</i>

The next Meeting will take place on December 20th, at the Restaurant Frascati, 32 Oxford Street, at 8.30 o'clock. The Dinner will be at 7 P.M.

BULLETIN

OF THE

BRITISH ORNITHOLOGISTS' CLUB.

No. XIII.

The twelfth meeting of the Club was held at the Restaurant Frascati, 32 Oxford Street, on Wednesday, the 20th of December, 1893.

Chairman : HENRY SEEBOHM.

Members present :—E. BIDWELL, P. CROWLEY, W. R. OGILVIE GRANT, E. HARTERT, E. G. B. MEADE-WALDO, T. J. MONK, P. W. MUNN, H. J. PEARSON, F. PENROSE, HOWARD SAUNDERS (*Treasurer*), R. BOWDLER SHARPE (*Editor*), H. H. SLATER, F. W. STYAN, A. B. R. TREVOR-BATTYE.

Visitor : J. M. MITCHELL.

Mr. MEADE-WALDO exhibited a series of clutches of curiously-marked eggs of the Common Blackcap (*Sylvia atricapilla*), from the Canary Islands.

Mr. ERNST HARTERT exhibited the type of a new species of Snipe in the Tring Museum, for which the Hon. Walter Rothschild furnished the following description :—

“In No. IX. of the Bulletin Canon Tristram described a new Snipe from the Snares under the name of *Gallinago huegeli*, and mentioned that the Snipe from Antipodes Island would probably be also new. Having received a specimen

[December 30th, 1893.]

from that locality, I find Canon Tristram's surmise to be right, and have much pleasure in naming the species after him

Gallinago tristrami, Rothschild, sp. n.

The new species is nearest in pattern to *G. aucklandica*, Gray, but differs from its three allies in its deeper rufous-brown colour and its much larger size. Under surface brownish buff, with the flanks barred as in *G. huegeli*, Tristr., and not lunulated as in *G. aucklandica*, Gray, and *G. pusilla*, Buller. Wing 4.4 (4 in *G. aucklandica*, about 3.8 in *G. pusilla*, 4.2 in *G. huegeli*), bill 2.6 (2.3 in *G. aucklandica*, 1.6 to 1.9 in *G. pusilla*, 2.25 in *G. huegeli*), tail 2.2 (1.75 in *G. aucklandica*, about 1.5 in *G. pusilla*, 1.6 in *G. huegeli*).

Hab. Antipodes Island.

Mr. HARTERT remarked that the locality given by Mr. Ogilvie Grant for *Lophophorus sclateri* in his recently published volume of the 'Catalogue of Birds' (vol. xxii. p. 282) required a slight alteration. The locality was given as the "Hills east and south-east of Sadiya," but Mr. Hartert stated that he believed that the species was entirely confined to the high Mishmi Hills, which form part of the Himalayas to the north of Sadiya. The hills to the east and south-east of the last-named place do not rise to any great height, and during a residence of two months at Sadiya he never heard of any specimens being brought from any other locality but the Mishmi Hills.

Mr. HOWARD SAUNDERS described a new species of Great Skua from Victoria Land. Five specimens were in the British Museum, two of which had been recently bequeathed by the late Dr. McCormick, R.N., who procured all the above specimens during the Antarctic Expedition of 1841. The name proposed by Mr. Saunders was

Stercorarius maccormicki, sp. n.

Similis *S. antarctico*, primariorum albedine magis extensâ, sed gastræo dilutiore, pallide grisescenti-brunneo, nuchâ et collo undique dilute stramineo striolatis distinguendus. Long. tot. 22 poll., alæ 16.

Hab. Possession Island, Victoria Land. Lat. $71^{\circ} 14' S.$, long. $171^{\circ} 15' W.$

A communication from Dr. TH. PLESKE was read, describing some new species of Tits from the collections of the St. Petersburg Museum. Dr. Pleske proposed the following names:—

1. *ACREDULA CALVA*, sp. n.

Allied to *A. glaucularis*, Swinh. Forehead, lores, and a patch on the crown white, instead of clay-colour; back uniform bluish-grey; breast and abdomen pure white; flanks more tinged with vinous-red. Length of tail 79–88.5 millim., instead of 61–69 millim. in *A. glaucularis*.

Hab. Upper Chuan-che, China.

2. *CYANISTES BEREZOWSKII*, sp. n.

Allied to *C. flavipectus*, Severtz. Crown of head tinged with smoky grey instead of bluish; no loreal streak continued behind the eye; collar on the hind neck narrow, dingy in colour, sometimes scarcely perceptible; no patch on the abdomen.

Hab. Upper Chuan-che, China.

Dr. Pleske further remarked that *Pæcile songara*, Severtz., from the Tian-Shan, with a black cap, was quite distinct from *Pæcile affinis*, Przew. (with dusky brown ear-coverts), from the Upper Chuan-che and Kansu. *L. dichroides*, Przew., was also said to be distinct from *L. dichrous* (Hodgs.). The Penduline Titmouse from Central Asia (South Siberia, Dshungaria, Eastern Turkestan, and Western China) represents a distinct form of *Ægithalus*, allied to *Æ. pendulinus*, of Europe; it must stand as *Ægithalus stoliczkae*, Hume.

Dr. R. BOWDLER SHARPE communicated some notes on African Coursers, with descriptions of the following new species:—

1. *RHINOPTILUS SEEBOHMI*, sp. n.

R. similis R. cincto (Heugl.), sed major, fasciâ post-auriculari lætè castaneâ nec nigricante, et rectrice penultimâ

extus nigro fasciatim maculato distinguendus. Long. tot. 9 poll., alæ 6·5, tarsi 2·5.

Hab. in provinciâ Ovampensi terræ Damarensis.

Typus in Mus. H. Seebohm.

2. *RHINOPTILUS HARTINGI*, sp. n.

R. similis *R. bisignato*, sed suprâ cinnamomeus et gastræo isabellino distinguendus. Long. tot. 6·8 poll., alæ 4·9–5·6, tarsi 1·8.

Hab. in provinciâ Somalensi Africæ orientalis.

Typus in Mus. H. Seebohm.

3. *RHINOPTILUS ALBOFASCIATUS*, sp. n.

R. similis *R. chalcoptero*, sed fasciâ alari latâ albâ, et præcipuè rectricibus centralibus haud albo terminatis distinguendus. Long. tot. 10 poll., alæ 6·8, tarsi 2·85.

Hab. in Africâ meridionali.

Typus in Mus. Brit.

Dr. Sharpe further remarked that *R. gracilis* of Fischer and Reichenow proved to be identical with *R. bisignatus* of Hartlaub, of which the type was in the British Museum.

Mr. SEEBOHM drew attention to the apparent cross-lines of migration which took place in Eastern Siberia and the extreme North-west of America, whereby several Nearctic species visited the Eastern Palæarctic Region, such as *Turdus alicia*, *Junco hyemalis*, *Dendræca coronata*, *Seiurus noveboracensis*, &c., while it was a well-known fact that Palæarctic species such as *Phylloscopus borealis*, *Pyrrhula cassini*, *Motacilla flava*, *Erithacus suecica*, &c., were visitors to Alaska.

The next Meeting of the Club will take place on Wednesday, the 17th of January, 1894.

(Signed)

HENRY SEEBOHM,	R. BOWDLER SHARPE,	HOWARD SAUNDERS,
<i>Chairman.</i>	<i>Editor.</i>	<i>Sec. & Treas.</i>

N.B.—A misprint has occurred in the last number of the 'Bulletin.' Page viii, line 11, for 'remigum' read 'rectricum.'—ED.

BULLETIN

OF THE

BRITISH ORNITHOLOGISTS' CLUB.

No. XIV.

THE thirteenth meeting of the Club was held at the Restaurant Frascati, 32 Oxford Street, on Wednesday, the 17th of January, 1894.

Chairman: P. L. SCLATER, F.R.S.

Members present:—E. BIDWELL, H. O. FORBES, W. GRAHAM, E. HARTERT, J. E. HARTING, H. J. PEARSON, F. PENROSE, H. E. RAWSON, HOWARD SAUNDERS (*Treasurer*), W. L. SCLATER, H. SEEBOHM, R. BOWDLER SHARPE (*Editor*), C. J. WILSON, J. YOUNG.

Visitor: CHAS. GIBSON.

THE CHAIRMAN called the attention of the meeting to the retirement of Dr. Jean Cabanis from the Editorship of the 'Journal für Ornithologie,' after having founded that journal and edited it for 41 years. The following resolution was carried unanimously:—

"That the sincere thanks of the B. O. C. are due to Dr. Jean Cabanis for his able conduct of the 'Journal für Ornithologie' for a period of 41 years, and that the best wishes of the Club be offered to him on his retirement."

[January 25th, 1894.]

The Hon. WALTER ROTHSCHILD sent for exhibition a series of Snipes from various islands of the New Zealand region, and offered the following remarks:—

“Since I laid before the B. O. C. the description of *Gallinago tristrami* I have received seven more specimens of *G. huegeli*, Tristr., and *G. aucklandica*. Of these the two *G. huegeli* are labelled, one as coming from Auckland Island and the other from Antipodes Island. Now *G. huegeli* is supposed to be confined to the Snares, the two only known specimens having come from there. Mr. Danneferd, who sent my specimens, gets most of his island-birds from the crew of the ‘Hinemoa,’ and I have more than once noticed in collections made by them for Sir Walter Buller that the labelling was most careless and incorrect. On the other hand, Danneferd positively states in a letter that one Snipe came from Antipodes Island and the other six from Auckland Island, and specially mentions that he sent examples of two species from Auckland Island. Personally I am more inclined to doubt the accuracy of the labelling than the possibility of two isolated islands (Auckland and Antipodes Is.), more than 500 miles apart, presenting the very unusual fact of two quite distinct species of Snipe (*G. huegeli* and *G. aucklandica*) on the one, and one of them only (*G. huegeli*) on the other, while on a neighbouring group (Chatham Is.) we have a third distinct and somewhat intermediate form. Lastly, we should have the still more incredible fact that *G. huegeli* occurs in company with *G. aucklandica* on Auckland Island and with *G. tristrami* on Antipodes Island, while on the Snares it is the sole species of Snipe, and on the Chatham Islands *G. pusilla* alone is found. The rather unfortunate doubt as regards the locality of some of my specimens, however, does not, in my opinion, interfere with the fact that there are four distinct species of Antarctic Snipe, as the series laid before you by Mr. Hartert shows.”

To illustrate these notes Mr. Hartert laid on the table over 40 skins of *G. pusilla*, 6 of *G. aucklandica*, 3 of *G. huegeli*, and 2 of *G. tristrami*.

In the discussion on Mr. Rothschild's paper which ensued, Mr. H. O. Forbes pointed out that the Snipe of which he had found sub-fossil remains on the Chatham Islands, and to which he had given the name of *Gallinago chathamica*, appeared to agree in length of bill with *G. tristrami*.

Dr. BOWDLER SHARPE made some remarks upon the geographical distribution of the Herons of the genus *Butorides*, of which he recognized eight different species and races, as follows :—

1. BUTORIDES ATRICAPILLA (Afzel.).

Hab. Africa and Madagascar.

Of this, *B. rutenbergi* (Hartl.) seems to be the ordinary winter dress.

2. BUTORIDES STRIATA (L.).

Hab. S. America, from Colombia and Venezuela to Peru, Southern Brazil, and the Argentine Republic.

3. BUTORIDES JAVANICA (Horsf.).

Hab. India generally and Ceylon east to Southern China, and south throughout the Burmese countries to the Malayan Peninsula and Indo-Malayan Islands as far as Celebes.

It is this Indian form which inhabits the islands of the Chagres group, as well as Mauritius, Rodriguez, the Seychelles, and the Comoro Islands. In Madagascar, however, the African form, *B. atricapilla*, occurs.

Subsp. α . BUTORIDES AMURENSIS (Schrenck).

Hab. Amoor Land and the Japanese Islands, extending south to Southern China (Canton; Amoy), Formosa, the Philippine Islands, and Labuan.

This is simply a very large race of *B. javanica*, which has been identified by some authors with the Australian *B. macro-rhyncha*.

Subsp. nov. β . BUTORIDES SPODIOGASTER, Sharpe.

Similis *B. javanicæ*, sed omninò saturator, fuliginoso-schis-

tacea, abdomine sordidè cervino. Long. tot. 17·5 poll.,
alæ 6·7.

Hab. Andaman Islands and Nicobars.

This race is of a so much darker leaden-grey colour than *B. javanica*, especially on the neck and sides of the body, that the two birds are easily recognized on comparison. The Australian race, *B. stagnatilis*, is still darker than *B. spodio-gaster*, and has a much darker rust-colour on the abdomen.

Subsp. γ . BUTORIDES STAGNATILIS.

Hab. Northern and Eastern Australia to New Guinea and throughout the Moluccas to Timor and Flores, and eastwards to the Solomon group, New Caledonia, the Fiji, Society, and Friendly Islands.

There seems to be but one species of *Butorides* in Australia, *B. macrorhyncha* of Gould being founded on the winter plumage of *B. stagnatilis*.

4. BUTORIDES PLUMBEA (Sundev.).

Hab. Galapagos Islands.

5. BUTORIDES VIRESCENS (L.).

Hab. North America generally, ranging throughout Central America to Panama and Venezuela, as well as the Greater and Lesser Antilles.

After the examination of a large series of Green Bitterns from America, Dr. Sharpe stated his inability to recognize more than one species, viz. *B. virescens*, several of the forms and subspecies recently described having been apparently founded on differences of plumage to be accounted for by age and season.

A communication was read from Mr. G. E. H. BARRETT-HAMILTON respecting two examples of the American Red-breasted Snipe, taken respectively on the 29th of September in Queen's Co. and in Tipperary on the 11th of November. The latter is tentatively referred to the Western form, *Macrorhamphus scolopaceus*.

Mr. J. E. HARTING exhibited a specimen of a rare Australian Duck (*Stictonetta nævosa*) from Gippsland.

Mr. H. J. PEARSON made some remarks on the birds observed by himself and Mr. Bidwell during a recent trip to Norway. A paper on this subject will appear in the forthcoming number of 'The Ibis.'

The next Meeting of the Club will take place on Wednesday, the 21st of February, 1894, when

Mr. E. BIDWELL will exhibit his series of Photographs of 64 Eggs of the Great Auk (*Alca impennis*).

Mr. HOWARD SAUNDERS will give a sketch of the geographical distribution of *Larus argentatus* and allied species.

Dr. BOWDLER SHARPE will make some remarks on the geographical distribution of certain Herons.

(Signed)

P. L. SCLATER,	R. BOWDLER SHARPE,	HOWARD SAUNDERS,
Chairman.	Editor.	Sec. & Treas.

BULLETIN

OF THE

BRITISH ORNITHOLOGISTS' CLUB.

No. XV.

THE fourteenth meeting of the Club was held at the Restaurant Frascati, 32 Oxford Street, on Wednesday, the 21st of February, 1894.

Chairman: P. L. SCLATER, F.R.S.

Members present:—E. BIDWELL, PHILIP CROWLEY, W. E. DE WINTON, W. GRAHAM, E. NEALE, F. MENTEITH OGILVIE, W. R. OGILVIE-GRANT, H. J. PEARSON, F. PENROSE, T. DIGBY PIGOTT, C.B., Major R. G. WARDLAW RAMSAY, R. H. READ, HOWARD SAUNDERS, H. SEEBOHM, R. BOWDLER SHARPE, F. W. STYAN, W. B. TEGETMEIER, Capt. H. A. TERRY, C. J. WILSON, JOHN YOUNG.

Visitors: Dr. J. R. BRADFORD, C. PEARSON, H. STEVENS.

Mr. E. BIDWELL exhibited his set of photographs of eggs of the Great Auk (*Alca impennis*), and stated that the series laid before the Members comprised illustrations of every known specimen except four. By the kind permission of Mr. Stevens, Mr. Bidwell was also able to exhibit to the meeting the egg of the Great Auk which was to be sold by auction on the morrow. It was an object of great interest to all the members present, as it was originally the property of Yarrell, and after his death passed into the hands of his friend Frederick Bond, along with the rest of whose collection it was ultimately purchased by Baron d'Hamonville.

[March 8, 1894.]

Mr. SEEBOHM exhibited an example of the North-Australian Ground-Thrush, *Geocichla heinii* (Cabanis) = *Oreocincla iodura* of Gould, and remarked as follows:—"This specimen has a very curious history. About the year 1836 it was sold by Brandt, the well-known Hamburg taxidermist, to Baron von Gyllenkrog. Brandt asserted that it was shot on Fyen (Fühnen), the large island at the south-east corner of Jutland. On the death of the Baron it became the property of the governors of the University of Lund, in the extreme south of Sweden. The veteran ornithologist of Heligoland erroneously identified it with the Himalayan Ground-Thrush, and recorded it as *Turdus dauma* (see Gaetke, Vogelwarte Helgoland, p. 245), asserting that the alleged locality was erroneous, an assertion which is probably correct, and substituting the statement that it had been caught on Heligoland in the days when Koopman and the elder Reymers, the well-known Heligoland bird-stuffers, were in the habit of sending skins to Brandt—a statement which is probably incorrect. Curiously enough, the type of *Geocichla heinii* in the Museum of Oberamtmann Ferdinand Heine at Halberstadt was purchased of a dealer (probably the same Brandt of Hamburg), with the locality 'Japan' attached to it. In the Lund specimen, which I am able to exhibit to-night, thanks to the courtesy of the authorities of that Institution, the russet (rather than olive) tone of the upper parts, the absence of pale subterminal spots on each feather of the same, conclusively prove that it cannot be either the Siberian or the Himalayan *Oreocincla*, whilst its small size, short tail, and large white terminal patch on the outer rectrices show its distinctness from its near ally in South-east Australia (*G. lunulata*), and prove the species to be *G. iodura* (Gould). It is satisfactory to be able to relieve the list of European birds of a species like *G. dauma*, so thoroughly Indian and non-migratory that its occurrence in Heligoland was difficult to account for."

Mr. SCLATER exhibited a kind of needle used by the natives of Northern Queensland for the purpose of weaving bags to hold "*Pituri*" (leaves of an intoxicating plant). The needle

was made of a portion of the stem of the feather of a bird (apparently a species of Heron), with the vanes and part of the shaft removed, and the twisted thread was neatly attached to an "eye" at the larger end.

Mr. SCLATER also exhibited a skin of a Rail—*Amaurolimnas concolor* (see Sci. & Salv. P. Z. S. 1868, p. 452),—sent to him by Prof. Nation, of Lima, and made remarks on the geographical distribution of this species.

This Rail was new to the fauna of Western Peru, and the specimen had been procured in a valley some 10 or 12 miles distant from Lima. It was a female, with the "bill green and the feet and irides crimson."

On behalf of Canon TRISTRAM, Mr. SCLATER further exhibited the second known specimen of *Coracias weigalli*, Dresser (Mon. Rollers, pl. vi.) from Newala, E. Africa—the same locality from which came the original type, which had been unfortunately lost. This specimen served to confirm the validity of the species, which had been impugned by Dr. Sharpe (Cat. B. xvii. p. 23).

Mr. DIGBY PIGOTT, C.B., exhibited some specimens of shingly beach from Suffolk, in which the stones were spotted in such a peculiar manner that it became almost impossible to detect the eggs of Terns, which chose these surroundings for their nesting-place.

A beautiful series of eggs of the Herring-Gull (*Larus argentatus*) from N.E. Norway were shown by Mr. H. J. PEARSON, and amongst them were some abnormally coloured eggs of a reddish hue. Mr. Pearson also exhibited some remarkable sets of eggs of Temminck's Stint (*Actodromas temmincki*), Dotterel (*Eudromias morinellus*), &c.

Mr. F. D. GODMAN sent for exhibition an Emu's egg of a beautiful blue colour, which had been laid by a bird in Sir E. Loder's park in Sussex. It was evident that the colouring of the egg, though of such a fine tint, was

incomplete, as the shell was characterized by an absence of the green granulations usually seen in the egg of the Emu (*Dromæus novæ-hollandiæ*).

Mr. HOWARD SAUNDERS made some remarks upon the geographical distribution of the members of the Herring-Gull group of Laridæ, viz. *Larus argentatus* and allied species. His conclusions were as follows:—"Typical *Larus argentatus*, with a pale grey mantle and flesh-coloured legs and feet, inhabits the coasts of the Northern Atlantic from Lapland to Iceland and Greenland; while in the Polar Sea it is found as far north and west as the North Georgian Islands, leaving a comparatively small gap in the direction of Bering Straits, where it is apparently absent. Southward it is found on both sides of America, more sparingly on the Pacific side, down to Mexico; in Europe its range extends down to mid-France. On the coast of France commences the range of *L. cachinnans*, a species with a somewhat darker mantle and bright yellow legs, and bright orange-red ring round the eye. This form frequents the Peninsula, the Azores, Madeira, Canaries, the Mediterranean and North Africa, stretching eastward through the Caspian Steppes and Southern Siberia to Lake Baikal, and visiting India in winter. Between the White Sea and the Taimyr Peninsula (where Cape Chelyuskin reaches about 77° N. lat.) there seems to be a break of continuity as regards any grey-mantled species, but thence to Bering Straits a form appears which differs from the southern race in having *flesh-coloured legs and feet*. This species, named by Prof. Palmén *L. argentatus* var. *vegø*, ranges in winter to Japan and China, where it has been erroneously named *L. occidentalis*, and, more excusably, *L. cachinnans*—excusably, because there was until lately no record of the colour of the legs in life, and these had dried orange-yellow in preserved specimens. All the above-mentioned forms may be considered sub-species of *L. argentatus*. Along Kamschatka, in the Sea of Okotsk, and through the Kuril Islands to Hakodate in Northern Japan, another larger and much darker-mantled Gull is met with, with purplish-

red legs, and a slightly different pattern on the primaries, in this respect intermediate between *L. argentatus* and *L. marinus*, though nearest to the former. This is *L. schistisagus* of Stejneger, and is quite a good species. Turning westward, we find *L. fuscus*, extending from the Faroes and Scandinavia to the Mediterranean (where it breeds), and also occurring in the Red Sea; a species which varies considerably in the intensity of colour in the mantle, but which is specially characterized by its chrome-yellow legs and small feet. From the Dwina and the White Sea, eastwards to the Petchora, Ob and Yenesei rivers, visiting the north-west of India in winter (accidentally wandering to South Greenland and Heligoland), is found *L. affinis*, Reinhardt, a species with dark grey mantle and yellow legs, but having a proportionately larger foot. It should be remarked that in all these species and subspecies there are niceties of distinction which cannot be detailed in an abstract like the present.

“On the Pacific coast of America, from Vancouver Island to Lower California, we find the true *L. occidentalis*, Audubon, with a stout bill, large flesh-coloured legs and feet, and very dark slate-grey mantle; while the black-mantled *L. dominicanus* of the Southern Hemisphere merely calls for passing mention as an offshoot of the same group, possibly derived through *L. occidentalis*.”

The Hon. WALTER ROTHSCHILD sent for publication the following note:—

“On examining carefully two specimens in spirit, and a series of skins, of *Palmeria dolei* (Wilson), I find to my astonishment that this bird is a true member of the Drepanidæ, and not, as I at first thought, a Meliphagine bird. Its undoubted resemblance to *Moho* and *Chatoptila* is, therefore, superficial, as appears to be the case with *Drepanis pacifica*.”

Mr. ERNST HARTERT wrote:—

“As I am not able to attend the Meeting of the B. O. C., I should like to call the attention of the Club to two recent

publications in Germany which appear to be not generally known in this country.

“The first is a book of 108 pages by Dr. E. Rey, ‘*Altes und Neues aus den Haushalte des Kuckucks.*’ This book may be known to many British ornithologists by name, but I have seen no comment on the surprising statement *that the old theory of the slow development of the eggs in the ovary of the Cuckoo is erroneous, and that the Cuckoo lays its eggs at much shorter intervals than is usually supposed; and, further, that it lays from seventeen to twenty-two eggs.*

“I will only add that the statements of Dr. Rey are based upon an immense mass of material, probably greater than has ever been examined by a single naturalist, and his results are founded upon a long experience. I myself can add no comment, and I need hardly add that there are several other interesting questions treated of at length in Dr. Rey’s book.

“The second publication to which I wish to draw attention is a pamphlet of 64 pages, by Dr. Heinrich Wickmann, ‘*Die Entstehung der Färbung der Voceleier.*’ It treats of the origin of the coloration of eggs. This interesting question is difficult to solve, and very little is yet known about it.

“The only positive result that has come to light from practical investigations on fresh birds with regard to the question,—‘*where in the body of the bird does the colour of the egg-shell originate?*’ seems to have been Dr. Kutter’s observation on an egg found in a female *Falco tinnunculus*. Kutter’s observations led him to believe that the colour originated in the upper part of the oviduct, and this was generally accepted, as no other theory seemed to rest on any assured basis. Now, however, Dr. Wickmann, after a period of some years’ careful studies and numerous dissections of birds, comes to the conclusion that the colour originates even earlier than in the oviduct, *i. e. in the ovary itself!*

“The pamphlet must be studied before being criticised, and I can only add that Wickmann’s deductions seem to be very clear and convincing; but I hope to find leisure-

time to investigate the matter later on, although it is extremely difficult to get the necessary material at the proper season. I consider Wickmann's pamphlet to be one of great importance."

Mr. TEGETMEIER exhibited a specimen of a curious chestnut variety of the Common Partridge (*Perdix cinerea*) killed during the past autumn in Shropshire. It closely resembled the form called on the Continent *Perdix montana*.

The next Meeting of the Club will take place on Wednesday, the 21st of March, 1894, when Dr. BOWDLER SHARPE will make some remarks on the geographical distribution of certain Herons.

(Signed)

P. L. SCLATER,	R. BOWDLER SHARPE,	HOWARD SAUNDERS,
<i>Chairman.</i>	<i>Editor.</i>	<i>Sec. & Treas.</i>

BULLETIN

OF THE

BRITISH ORNITHOLOGISTS' CLUB.

No. XVI.

THE fifteenth meeting of the Club was held at the Restaurant Frascati, 32 Oxford Street, on Wednesday, March 21st, 1894.

Chairman : P. L. SCLATER, F.R.S.

Members present :—E. BIDWELL, WALTER CHAMBERLAIN, S. R. CLARKE, PHILIP CROWLEY, W. E. DE WINTON, C. H. CATON HAIGH, F. MENTEITH OGILVIE, H. J. PEARSON, T. DIGBY PIGOTT, C.B., HOWARD SAUNDERS, HENRY SEEBOHM, R. BOWDLER SHARPE.

Visitor : DR. F. A. JENTINK (Leiden).

Mr. W. R. OGILVIE-GRANT sent for exhibition a skin of a Babbling-Thrush, with the following observations :—

“ In looking through a collection of birds made by Mr. L. A. Waddell, F.L.S., in Sikhim, I find a new species of *Garrulax*, which I propose to call after its discoverer,

“ *GARRULAX WADDELLI*, sp. nov.

“ Like *G. pectoralis*, but with the rufous collar almost obsolete; the superciliary stripe grey, not white; ear-coverts pale buff with blackish shaft-stripes, instead of black, or black streaked with white, and the tail rather narrowly tipped with ashy, whereas in *G. pectoralis* it is broadly tipped with white.

“ *Hab.* Rungeet (Rangit) River, Sikhim, 4000 feet.

[March 30th, 1894.]

“This specimen—an adult female, obtained in April 1891—will come into Dr. Sharpe’s ‘Key’ (see Cat. B. vii. p. 434) after *G. albigularis*, which has the hind neck uniform with the back; but the words of the ‘Key’ should be modified to ‘uniform or nearly uniform.’ The differences between the new species and *G. albigularis* are of course obvious, the latter having no black pectoral band.”

Mr. SCLATER exhibited the skin of a Hemipode, forwarded to him by Mr. H. H. Johnston, C.B., being the first example of this family obtained in Nyasaland. It was shot on the plateau near Zomba, in December last. Mr. Ogilvie-Grant had determined it as *Turnix nana* (cf. Cat. B. Brit. Mus. xxii. p. 541) of Natal and Cape Colony.

Dr. BOWDLER SHARPE read a paper on the geographical distribution of the Little Bitterns (*Ardetta*), of which he recognized nine species.

1. ARDETTA MINUTA (L.).

Hab. Central and Southern Europe below 60° N. lat., the countries of the Mediterranean, eastward to Central Asia, Cashmere, and wintering in the plains of N.W. India to 80° E. long. N.E. Africa in winter, and said to have occurred in East and West Africa.

2. ARDETTA PODICIPES (Bp.).

Represents *A. minuta* in Africa and Madagascar, and appears to be generally distributed south of 15° N. lat.

3. ARDETTA SINENSIS.

Hab. From N. China and the Japanese islands throughout China to the Burmese countries, the peninsula of India, and Ceylon, breeding in all these countries. It is also found, apparently as a winter visitant, in the Malay Peninsula and Archipelago to New Guinea and New Britain. The British Museum contains two specimens from Australia. The species is likewise found in the Seychelles, a very interesting fact when taken into consideration with the distribution of *Butorides javanica* in the Mascarene Islands (cf. *antea*, p. xvii).

4. ARDETTA EXILIS (Gm.).

Hab. North America generally, up to the Great Lakes; south to Texas, Florida, California, Guatemala, and the Greater Antilles. *Ardeetta neorena* of Cory seems to be founded on very old individuals of *A. exilis*, in which the rufous tips to the quills and the light stripes on the back have disappeared with age or wear.

5. ARDETTA ERYTHROMELAS (V.).

Hab. Represents *A. exilis* in South America from Panama to British Guiana and Trinidad, and thence south to Paraguay and Southern Brazil. It also extends to Peru.

6. ARDETTA PUSILLA (V.).

Hab. Closely allied to *A. exilis* of N. America. Confined to Australia and New Zealand.

7. ARDETTA EURYTHMA.

Hab. From North-eastern Siberia and Amurland, extending through all the Japanese islands to China, apparently breeding on the Yangtze, occurring in winter in Cochinchina and Borneo.

8. ARDETTA INVOLUCRIS.

Hab. Chili to Paraguay, Southern Brazil, and Northern Patagonia. Recorded from Peru, but erroneously, as the species from that country is *A. erythromelas*.

9. ARDETTA CINNAMOMEA.

Hab. From Amurland to China and Formosa, not occurring in any of the Japanese islands, but throughout the Indian Peninsula and Ceylon, the Malayan Peninsula and islands to the Philippines and Celebes.

Dr. SHARPE next drew attention to the distribution of some species of the genus *Nycticorax*, especially to that of the true Night-Herons. Between *N. naevius* of North America and the ordinary *N. nycticorax* of Europe he was unable to find any specific difference, and therefore the range of this species appeared to be bounded by about 50° N. lat. in both hemispheres, and beyond that line it could only

be considered an accidental visitor. Wherever suitable localities existed, the Night-Heron bred, so that it was found equally at home in South Africa as it was in Hungary, and to the east it occurred as far north as the Japanese islands and Peking, and as far south as Java and Celebes. In the Neotropical Region it was found in Guiana, Colombia, and Ecuador, and was probably the species which had been recorded from the Ucayali river in Upper Amazonia.

The distribution of the two other species of Night-Heron in South America was curious. *N. cyanocephalus*, Molina (*N. obscurus*, auct.), was found in Magellan Straits, northward to Central Chili. Its place was taken in Peru by another species, closely allied to *N. nycticorax*, which would have to bear the unwieldy name of *N. tayazu-guira* of Vieillot, founded on the "*Garza tayazú-guira*" of Azara. This species ranged from Peru to the province of Tarapacá in Northern Chili, through Bolivia to Southern Brazil and Argentina, and then re-occurred in the Falkland Islands, where *N. cyanocephalus* might have been expected.

Of the species of *Ardeirallus*, Dr. SHARPE characterized a new form as

ARDEIRALLUS NESOPHILUS, sp. n.

Similis *A. melani*, sed abdomine schistaceo, gutture et præpectore paullulum rufescenti-brunneo marmoratis distinguendus. Long. tot. 22 poll., alæ 8·2.

Hab. in insulâ "Duke of York" dictâ.

The species of *Ardeirallus* are apparently four in number. *A. flavicollis*, which breeds in the Eastern Narra, Sind, occurs again in the Wynaad, Travancore, and Ceylon, but is widely distributed in Central and Southern China, west to India, and south to the Malayan countries to Java, Borneo, and Celebes. *A. gouldi* is confined to Australia and New Guinea. *A. melas* to the Molucca islands (Halmahéra, Batchian, Morotai, and Bourou), extending to the Sanghir group, and it is probably the species of Amboina; *A. nesophilus* appears to be confined to Duke of York Island and New Britain.

Dr. SHARPE then referred to *Ardea purpurea*, which was shown to consist of two distinct forms with a separate and distinct geographical distribution. The eastern form would have to bear the name of *Ardea manillensis* of Meyen—an unsatisfactory title, as the species is not confined to the Philippines, but is spread over the Indian Region from Sind to Ceylon and eastwards to the Burmese countries and Southern China, south to the Malayan Peninsula and islands, as far as Celebes. True *A. purpurea* inhabits Central and Southern Europe and Asia, as far east as Western Turkestan, and extends its range south into suitable districts of Africa, as far as Cape Colony.

Mr. SCLATER called attention to the great inconvenience which would result to ornithological nomenclature by the enforcement of the "*Scomber scomber*" principle, and pointed out that it would cause the alteration of at least 26 names in the 'B.O.U. List of British Birds.' The Stricklandian Code (which was the first promulgated in modern times upon the strict rule of priority) said expressly (see Report, p. 10) that "specific names, when adopted as generic, must be changed." No conclusive reasons were shown in either the American or German Code for the alteration of this rule, and under these circumstances Mr. Sclater held that the Stricklandian Code should not be violated.

A short discussion followed; and it was announced that a debate on the subject would follow at a future meeting.

The next Meeting of the Club will take place on Wednesday, April 18th, 1894, when two hitherto unrecorded eggs of the Great Auk will be exhibited.

(Signed)

P. L. SCLATER,	R. BOWDLER SHARPE,	HOWARD SAUNDERS,
<i>Chairman.</i>	<i>Editor.</i>	<i>Sec. & Treas.</i>

BULLETIN.

OF THE

BRITISH ORNITHOLOGISTS' CLUB.

No. XVII.

THE sixteenth meeting of the Club was held at the Restaurant Frascati, 32 Oxford Street, on Wednesday, the 18th of April, 1894.

Chairman : HENRY SEEBOHM.

Members present :—E. G. BARRETT-HAMILTON, E. BIDWELL, PHILIP CROWLEY, W. E. DE WINTON, F. D. GÖDMAN, F.R.S., W. GRAHAM, Dr. EDWARD HAMILTON, EDWARD HARGITT, ERNST HARTERT, Major A. P. LOYD, T. J. MONK, P. W. MUNN, W. R. OGILVIE-GRANT, H. J. PEARSON, F. PENROSE, T. DIGBY PIGOTT, C.B., Hon. WALTER ROTHSCHILD, OSBERT SALVIN, F.R.S., HOWARD SAUNDERS, R. BOWDLER SHARPE, C. B. WHARTON, JOHN YOUNG.

Visitors : Col. E. DELMÉ-RADCLIFFE, Mr. C. E. FAGAN, Dr. A. DONALDSON SMITH (Philadelphia), Mr. H. STEVENS.

Mr. E. BIDWELL exhibited two eggs of the Great Auk (*Alca impennis*), which had apparently never been recorded, and which had been brought by the owner to the British Museum (Nat. Hist.) for identification in March last. One was a very handsome specimen, but the second was somewhat damaged: they had no history beyond the fact that they were purchased at a country sale amongst a lot of old "curios."

[April 30th, 1894.]

The Hon. WALTER ROTHSCHILD also exhibited an egg of the Great Auk from his collection.

Mr. ROTHSCHILD likewise brought for exhibition some eggs of Queen Victoria's Rifle-bird (*Ptilorhis victoriæ*), which had been obtained by Mr. Meek on the coast of Queensland, opposite to the Barnard Islands, where the species was first discovered.

Some skins and living specimens of *Apteryx* were also exhibited by Mr. ROTHSCHILD, who made the following remarks on the birds:—

“At the meeting of the Club held last June, when I read a paper on the known species of *Apteryx*, it appeared to me that several Members present were still far from satisfied that *Apteryx haasti* was really a species, and not a hybrid between *Apteryx australis* and *Apteryx oweni*.

“Since the meeting in June I have received some twenty-five more specimens of *Apteryx haasti*, making a series of sixty skins now in my possession, all of which show no variation whatever except in size.

“About three weeks ago I received four living specimens of an *Apteryx*, which were noticed, on their landing, to be very distinct. On careful examination I was at once struck by the presence of cross-bars on the plumage, as well as by the longitudinal stripes usually seen in the plumage of *Apteryx mantelli*. Further investigation, together with the fact that the plumage on none of the four examples is identical, clearly shows them to be hybrids between *Apteryx mantelli* and *Apteryx occidentalis*. It will thus be seen at a glance that, while all specimens of *Apteryx haasti* are regularly barred, the hybrids between barred forms and striped forms of *Apteryx* show a mixed character of marking. We may therefore fairly deduce this fact, that, whatever else it may be, *Apteryx haasti* is certainly not a hybrid between *Apteryx australis* and *Apteryx oweni*.”

Mr. E. HARTERT exhibited some skins of *Eupsychortyx*,

and remarked that among a number of bird-skins from Venezuela, recently received at Mr. Walter Rothschild's Museum at Tring, are specimens of the *Eupsychortyx sonninii* from the plain of Valencia; while from Cumaná, on the north coast of Venezuela, there was an apparently new species, which he proposed to call

EUPSYCHORTYX MOCQUERYSI, sp. nov.

This is nearest to *E. sonninii* (Temm.), but differs from it in having the throat white all along the middle, most of the feathers showing distinct narrow cross-bars of black. The breast, instead of being pale vinaceous brown with fine black vermiculations and sparsely spotted with white, is of a peculiar vinaceous-cinnamon and quite uniform except on the lower part. This same colour extends—slightly brightened in tint—down the abdomen and sides of the body, where, however, it is varied by large white spots bordered with black. Length about 9 inches, wing 4·1 to 4·25, tail 2·6, tarsus 1·1, middle toe with claw 1·35.

Dr. BOWDLER SHARPE made some remarks on the classification of the Herons, with reference to the monographic papers of Dr. Reichenow (J. f. O. 1877, pp. 225–277) and Dr. Stejneger (Proc. U.S. Nat. Mus. x. pp. 271–319). The last-named naturalist has divided the *Ardeinæ* into two groups, Herons and Bitterns, the former having twelve tail-feathers and the latter ten. This Dr. Sharpe considered to be an excellent arrangement, and in the latter group he proposed to place the genera *Botaurus*, *Ardetta*, *Nannocnus*, *Ardeirallus*, and *Zebrius*. All the specimens of the last genus in the British Museum possess ten tail-feathers, though Dr. Reichenow gives the number as twelve.

To the group of Bitterns with ten tail-feathers Dr. Sharpe added two more, which he proposed to call

XANTHOCNUS, gen. nov.

This genus contains four species, viz.:—*X. flavicollis* (Lath.), *X. melas* (Salvad.), *X. gouldi* (Bp.), and *X. nesophilus* (Sharpe). Cf. Bull. antea, p. xxxii.

All these species have hitherto been placed in the genus

Ardeirallus, the type of which is *A. sturmi* of Africa; but the genus *Xanthocnus* is distinguished by its long bill, which is equal in length to the middle toe and claw.

ERYTHROPHOYX, gen. nov.

This new genus contains two species hitherto placed in *Ardeirallus* (potius *Xanthocnus*), but distinguished from the species belonging to *Xanthocnus* by the long tarsus much exceeding the length of the middle toe and claw. The type of the genus is *E. woodfordi* (Grant), and a second species is *E. prætermissa* (Sharpe).

Among the groups of Herons with twelve tail-feathers Dr. Sharpe pointed out that *Phoyx*, a name proposed by Dr. Stejneger as a subgenus to include the Purple Herons, is really a very distinct genus, differing from all the others in the length of its middle toe and claw, which is equal to the tarsus in length; the claw of the hind toe is also very long, only slightly curved, and nearly equal to the hallux itself. Two species are known, *Phoyx purpurea* (L.) and *P. manillensis* (Meyen).

The slaty-black Heron of Africa, *Ardea calceolata*, Du Bus, seems to belong to a genus distinct from *Herodias*, and certainly from *Demiegreitta*, with which it has been placed by some writers. The bill is not so long as the middle toe and claw, and it therefore belongs to the shorter-billed group, containing *Florida* and *Herodias*. The name proposed for it is

MELANOPHOYX, gen. nov.

Similar to *Florida*, but with elongated plumes on the crest and breast; the ornamental plumes on the back not reaching beyond the tail.

Dr. Sharpe also proposed the name of

MESOPHOYX, gen. nov.,

for the bird generally called *Herodias intermedia*, which was intermediate between the genera *Ardea* and *Herodias*. From the former it differed in having no ornamental nape-plumes, and in the possession of an enormous pectoral and dorsal

patch of ornamental plumes, the dorsal train reaching far beyond the tail. From *Herodias* it is distinguished by its serrated bill and the difference in style of the ornamental breeding-plumes.

The genus *Garzetta* differs from *Herodias* in its longer and slenderer bill, which exceeds the length of the middle toe and claw, the last-named genus being closely allied to *Ardea*. The American Egret differs from *Garzetta* in its enormous crest of decomposed plumes, which covers the whole crown and nape; it also lacks the elongated nape-plumes of *Garzetta*, while the breast-feathers are decomposed and not lanceolate. The name suggested is

LEUCOPHOYX, gen. nov. Type, *L. candidissima* (Gm.).

Another curious Heron, which cannot be referred to any known genus, is the *Ardea rufiventris* of Sundevall, from South Africa. It belongs to the group of *Butorides* and *Ardeola*. From the former genus it differs in having a rounded wing, with the secondaries equal to the primaries, and the scapulars so much produced as to overhang the quills. From *Ardeola* it differs in having no ornamental nape-plumes, but a very dense neck-frill; it also wants the dorsal train. The name proposed is

ERYTHOCNUS, gen. nov. Type, *E. rufiventris* (Sund.).

The next Meeting of the Club will take place on Wednesday, May 16th, 1894.

(Signed)

HENRY SEEBOHM,	R. BOWDLER SHARPE,	HOWARD SAUNDERS,
Chairman.	Editor.	Sec. & Treas.

BULLETIN

OF THE

BRITISH ORNITHOLOGISTS' CLUB.

No. XVIII.

THE seventeenth meeting of the Club was held at the Restaurant Frascati, 32 Oxford Street, on Wednesday, the 16th of May, 1894.

Chairman : P. L. SCLATER, F.R.S.

Members present :—E. BIDWELL, W. T. BLANFORD, F.R.S., W. CHAMBERLAIN, E. HARTERT, A. P. LOYD, E. W. OATES, W. R. OGILVIE-GRANT, F. PENROSE, R. H. READ, Hon. W. ROTHSCHILD, HOWARD SAUNDERS, H. SEEBOHM, R. BOWDLER SHARPE, G. E. SHELLEY, W. B. TEGETMEIER, A. TREVOR-BATTYE, H. M. UPCHER, C. J. WILSON.

Visitors : Capt. B. L. SCLATER, R.A., G. L. SCLATER, R.N., Dr. A. DONALDSON SMITH (Philadelphia).

Mr. E. W. OATES exhibited some skins of birds recently procured by him in the Shan States, amongst which was an apparently new species of *Ixulus*, which he proposed to call

IXULUS CLARKI, sp. n.

Similis *I. humili*, Hume, sed dorso cinereo nec brunneo, pileo saturatè umbrino, nec ut in *I. humili* dorso concolori, maculâ argentescente ad latera colli positâ, distinguendus. Long. tot. 5 poll., alæ 2.45.

This species was named after Mr. C. C. S. Clark, who had

[May 26th, 1894.]

greatly assisted Mr. Oates in his ornithological work on Mount Byingyi.

The Hon. WALTER ROTHSCHILD exhibited specimens of the extinct *Chætoptila angustipluma* from Hawaii, *Loxops wolstenholmei* from Oahu, and also the adult male, female, and young male of *Drepanornis bruijnii*.

Mr. W. T. BLANFORD, F.R.S., made some remarks on the Owls of the Indian Region, with special reference to the following species :—*Strix de roepstorffi* (not to be separated from *S. flammea*), *Carine pulchra* (to be united to *C. brama*), *Glaucidium radiatum* and *G. malabaricum* (not specifically distinct), *Ninox lugubris*, *N. burmanica*, and *N. scutulata* (to be united); *Scops modestus* (= *S. balli*), *S. lempiji*, *S. malabaricus*, *S. griseus* (= *S. bakhamæna*), and *S. lettia* all belong to one species; *S. pennata* (= *S. giu*) and *S. sunia* must also be united; and *S. nicobaricus* = *S. sunia*. The genus *Huhua* must be kept distinct from *Bubo*.

Captain SHELLEY exhibited some specimens of African birds, amongst which were some new species, which he described as follows :—

1. PŒOPTERA KENRICKI, sp. n.

Brunnescenti-nigra, vix metallica, æneo paullulum adumbrata. Long. tot. 7·5 poll., alæ 4.

Hab. Usambara Mts. Type in Shelley collection.

2. ARTAMIA COMORENSIS.

Similis *A. bicolori*, sed major: supra concolor: saturatè cyanea, vix lilacino lavata. Long. tot. 6·5 poll., alæ 3·75.

Hab. Great Comoro Island (*Kirk*). Type in Shelley collection.

Captain SHELLEY further proposed the name of *Enneactonus reichenovi*, an emended title for *Lanius affinis*, Reichenow, J. f. O. 1884, p. 261 (nec Legge, Str. F. 1876, p. 243).

He also made some remarks on *Malaconotus poliocephalus*,

of which he recognized three races, which had been mixed up by Dr. Gadow in the 'Catalogue of Birds.' These were, according to Captain Shelley, *M. poliocephalus* (Licht.), from Western and North-eastern Africa, *M. blanchoti* (Steph.), from Zanzibar to Algoa Bay, and *M. approximans* (Cab.), from the Pangani River to Shoa. The species called by Dr. Gadow *Laniarius hypopyrrhus* was not really Hartlaub's species of that name, and Capt. Shelley proposed the name of *Malaconotus gabonensis* for it (= *L. hypopyrrhus*, Gadow, nec Hartl.).

While speaking of the African Shrikes he pointed out that *Telephonus anchietæ*, Bocage, and *T. minutus*, Hartl., were not true members of the genus *Telephonus*, as the sexes differ remarkably, the female being distinguished by a broad white eyebrow, whereas in *Telephonus* both male and female are alike. The bill is also shorter and stouter than in the last-named genus, and he therefore proposed to separate the two species above mentioned under a new generic heading—

BOCAGIA, gen. nov.

Types, *B. minuta* (Hartl.) and *B. anchietæ* (Bocage).

Professor BARBOZA DU BOCAGE sent for exhibition the skin of an apparently new species of *Bradyornis*, which he had received from Galanga in Angola. He proposed to call it

BRADYORNIS SHARPII, sp. n.

Similis *B. boehmi*, Reichenow, sed rostro nigro, mandibulâ haud flavidâ, et pileo chocolatino concolori, nec griseo : fasciâ cervicali grisescenti nullâ. Long. tot. 5·6 poll., alæ 3·2.

Dr. BOWDLER SHARPE laid upon the table the first two livraisons of Fatio and Studer's 'Catalogue des Oiseaux de la Suisse,' and pointed out the useful work that could be done by any English ornithologist who devoted himself to working out the ranges of British Birds in the same manner as had been done by these Swiss naturalists. The maps showing the distribution of each species in Switzerland formed

a distinct feature, which, Dr. Sharpe believed, could be introduced with advantage in a general work on the geographical distribution of British Birds.

The next Meeting of the Club (and the last of the Session) will take place on Wednesday, June 20th, 1894, when the Secretary and Treasurer will make a financial statement and will also submit to the Members a Draft of the amended Rules and Bye-laws.

(Signed)

P. L. SCLATER,
Chairman.

R. BOWDLER SHARPE,
Editor.

HOWARD SAUNDERS,
Sec. & Treas.

BULLETIN

OF THE

BRITISH ORNITHOLOGISTS' CLUB.

No. XIX.

THE eighteenth meeting of the Club was held at the Restaurant Frascati, 32 Oxford Street, on Wednesday, the 20th of June, 1894.

Chairman : P. L. SCLATER, F.R.S.

Members present :—A. H. EVANS, A. H. EVERETT, W. R. OGILVIE GRANT, E. HARGITT, E. HARTERT, L. H. IRBY, A. P. LOYD, J. G. MILLAIS, R. H. READ, HON. W. ROTH-SCHILD, HOWARD SAUNDERS, R. BOWDLER SHARPE, G. E. SHELLEY, JOHNSON WILKINSON, C. A. WRIGHT, JOHN YOUNG.

Visitor : MR. NESHAM.

THE SECRETARY and TREASURER presented a Draft of the amended Rules, and these were adopted *nem. con.* He then stated that the Club contained 102 Members who had paid their subscriptions, and that there was a substantial working balance in the treasury.

MR. SCLATER exhibited skins of three rare Parrots (*Ara auricollis*, *Pionus lacerus*, and *Chrysotis tucumana*), obtained by Herr Paul Neumann in Tucuman and Jujuy, Argentina (see Reichenow, Orn. Monatsb. ii. p. 66). These species had not been included in Sclater and Hudson's 'Argentine Ornithology.' The specimens were duplicates of the Berlin Museum, and had been kindly sent to Mr. Sclater in exchange.

[June 30th, 1894.]

Mr. SCLATER also exhibited two eggs of *Phibalura flavirostris* (Fam. *Cotingidæ*), hitherto quite unknown, obtained in the vicinity of Rio Janeiro, and sent to him by Dr. E. A. Goeldi, with a paper describing the nesting of this bird, which would be published in the October number of 'The Ibis.'

A letter was read from Professor O. TASCHENBERG, of Halle-a/S., pointing out that the conclusions of Dr. Wickmann, with regard to the origin of the coloration of bird's eggs (*cf.* Bull. no. xv. p. xxvi), had already been insisted upon by him in the 'Zoologischer Anzeiger' for 1885 (vol. viii. p. 243).

The Hon. WALTER ROTHSCHILD exhibited co-types of *Eos histrio talautensis*, *Zeocephus talautensis*, *Hermotimia talautensis*, *Pitta inspeculata*, *Oriolus melanisticus*, all described by Messrs. A. B. Meyer and L. W. Wigglesworth from the Talaut Islands, Kabruang, and Salibabu.

Mr. ROTHSCHILD also exhibited some rare Japanese birds, among them a pair of *Parus owstoni*, Ijima, from Miyakeshima, Seven Islands, Izu, south of Japan. The species is described in 'Dōbutsugaku Zasshi,' no. 62, December 1893. *Parus owstoni* somewhat resembles *P. varius*, Temm. & Schleg., but differs obviously in its much bigger bill and feet, and its larger size altogether, by the deep rufous sides of the head and forehead, the mark on the occiput, and the colour of the back. It is not a strictly typical form of the genus *Parus*.

Mr. ROTHSCHILD laid on the table a typical specimen of *Aithya polytmus* (Linn.), from Jamaica, and two others which had a large ruby-coloured spot on the throat. These latter were collected by Mr. C. B. Taylor in one locality in the district of St. Andrew, to the north of Kingston, Jamaica, where he frequently met with this ruby-throated form. Mr. Rothschild considered the ruby spot to be a sufficient

character for the recognition of a distinct local race, which he named *Aithurus taylori*, after its discoverer.

Mr. ROTHSCHILD also exhibited a specimen of *Diomedea immutabilis*, described by him from Laysan Island. It was shot by Mr. Owston's collector on Miyakeshima, October 30th, 1893.

Dr. JULIUS VON MADARÁSZ communicated the description of two apparently new species of birds from the Finisterre Mountains in Eastern New Guinea, collected by Mr. Samuel Fenichel for the Hungarian National Museum. Dr. von Madarász proposed to call these new species

PÆCILODRYAS HERMANI, sp. n.

P. similis P. hypoleucæ, sed intensè nigra, minimè vero schistacea vel brunnescenti-nigra, supercilio albo lato, et speculo alari albo multo majore distinguenda. Long. tot. 5 poll., alæ 3·1.

Hab. in montibus Novæ Guinææ 'Finisterre' dictis.

DONACICOLA SHARPIL, sp. n.

D. similis D. castaneithoraci, sed supracaudalibus et rectricibus centralibus intensè castaneis, et pileo clarè margaritaceo cano distinguenda. Long. tot. 4 poll., alæ 2·05.

Hab. in montibus 'Finisterre' dictis.

Mr. HOWARD SAUNDERS made some observations on an interesting stage of plumage of *Larus melanocephalus*, an immature specimen of which had been procured in Hungary, and had been submitted to him for identification by the Hungarian National Museum.

Mr. J. G. MILLAIS exhibited specimens of the Grey-necked Bustard (*Trachelotis barrovii*), obtained by him during his recent travels in South-eastern Africa, and drew special attention to the rosy tinge which the white under surface of the bird frequently exhibited.

Extracts of letters received from Mr. W. EAGLE CLARKE were read by Mr. H. SAUNDERS. Mr. Clarke had systemati-

cally worked the Camargue—the wild marshy district about the mouths of the Rhone—and found some 115 species of birds there. He observed flocks of 500–600 Flamingoes on the *étang* of Valcarès, which covers an area of about 30 square miles, though not more than 2 feet deep, and watched their way of feeding on a small crustacean (*Artemia salina*) $\frac{1}{4}$ inch in length and existing in myriads. The Flamingoes were not nesting, and perhaps would not do so this year, as the season had been exceptionally dry. The Red-crested Pochard (*Fuligula rufina*) was a tolerably common breeding species, nesting under dense masses of purslane, and in the same cover two pairs of Pintail (*Dafila acuta*) were undoubtedly breeding: a very considerable extension southward of the known breeding-range of this Duck.

Mr. E. HARTERT made some remarks on the ornithological treasures in the Museum of Kiel, which he had recently visited. Besides the Boie and Behn collections, there were several other birds of great interest to be seen there, including a *Nestor productus* and a fine *Alca immensis*.

The EDITOR announced that the titlepage and index to Vol. III. of the 'Bulletin' would be distributed shortly, along with Mr. Degen's paper on "Some of the Main Features in the Evolution of the Bird's Wing," which would appear as Vol. II. of the 'Bulletin' of the British Ornithologists' Club.

The next Meeting of the Club will take place on Wednesday, October 24th, 1894.

(Signed)

P. L. SCLATER,	R. BOWDLER SHARPE,	HOWARD SAUNDERS,
<i>Chairman.</i>	<i>Editor.</i>	<i>Sec. & Treas.</i>

Postscript.

[The following descriptions of new species of Philippine birds have been sent to me by Mr. Ogilvie Grant, who has received a collection from the mountains of Northern Luzon from his friend Mr. John Whitehead, which unfortunately arrived too late for exhibition at the last Meeting of the Club. A full account of the collection will appear in 'The Ibis.'—R. B. S., *June 23, 1894.*]

Mr. Ogilvie Grant describes the following species as new :—

CHIMARRHORNIS BICOLOR, sp. n.

Cyanescenti-schistaceus; abdomine, uropygio, supracaudalibus et caudâ saturatè castaneis. Long. tot. 6·3 poll., alæ 3.

ORIOLOUS ALBILORIS, sp. n.

Similis, ut videtur, *O. samarensi*, Steere, sed loris conspicuè albis, corpore subtùs toto lætè flavo, hypochondriis vix nigricante striolatis distinguendus. Long. tot. 7·7 poll., alæ 4·3.

LANIUS VALIDIROSTRIS, sp. n.

L. tephronoto, Vig., valdè affinis, sed notæo toto schistaceo, uropygio et supracaudalibus minimè rufis, et rostro validiore distinguendus. Long. tot. 8·2 poll., alæ 3·4.

HYLOTERPE ALBIVENTRIS, sp. n.

Similis *H. philippinensi*, Wald., sed obscurior; pectore grisescente et abdomine albo distinguenda. Long. tot. 6 poll., alæ 3·3.

DENDROPHILA MESOLEUCA, sp. n.

Similis *D. ænochlamydi*, Sharpe, sed plagâ longitudinali dorsali albescente faciliè distinguenda. Long. tot. 4·7 poll., alæ 3.

ÆTHOPYGA FLAVIPECTUS, sp. n.

Similis *Æ. bellæ*, Tweedl., sed subtùs lætè flavo, pectore minimè scarlatino notato distinguenda. Long. tot. 3·7 poll., alæ 1·7.

EUDREPANIS JEFFERYI, sp. n.

Similis *E. pulcherrimæ*, Sharpe, sed secundariis extùs latè metallicè viridibus tectricibus concoloribus distinguenda. Long. tot. 3·6 poll., alæ 1·9.

CINNYRIS OBSCURIOR, sp. n.

Similis *C. jugulari* (L.), sed minor, suprà grisescente tincta, vix olivascens, rostro brevior et crassior distinguenda. Long. tot. 4 poll., alæ 2.

CINNYRIS WHITEHEADI, sp. n.

Similis *C. speratæ* (L.), sed pileo nuchâque metallicè aureo-viridibus, dorso alisque nigerrimis; uropygio et supra-caudalibus metallicè viridibus distinguenda. Long. tot. 4 poll., alæ 2·1.

DICÆUM LUZONIENSE, sp. n.

Simile *D. ignipectori*, Hodgs., sed gutture et pectore scarlatinis. Long. tot. 3·5 poll., alæ 2·1.

DICÆUM OBSCURUM, sp. n.

Simile *D. concolori*, Jerd., sed major et rostro fortior, notæo saturatè olivaceo, corpore subtùs magis cinerascete, loris minimè albis. Long. tot. 3·6 poll., alæ 2·2.

ZOSTERORNIS, gen. n. (Fam. *Timeliidæ*.)

Genus affine generi "*Cyanoderma*" dicto, sed orbitis minimè nudis, annulo vero albo, more *Zosteropum*, cinctis, distinguendum. Typus est

ZOSTERORNIS WHITEHEADI, sp. n.

Suprà olivacea; pileo cinereo; supercilio, faciei lateribus et gulâ summâ cinnamomeo-rufis; subtùs omninò flava. Long. tot. 5·5 poll., alæ 2·8.

STOPAROLA NIGRIMENTALIS, sp. n.

Similis *S. sordidæ*, Wald., sed colore magis argentescenti-schistaceo; fronte et loris, supercilio, mento, et gulâ summâ nigris distinguenda. Long. tot. 6·2 poll., alæ 3·1.

CHLORURA BRUNNEIVENTRIS, sp. n.

C. similis C. borneensi, Sharpe, sed abdomine quoque rufescente, pectore concolore; pectoris lateribus cæruleo

lavatis ; fronte cæruleâ lætiore et minùs extensâ. Long. tot. 4·2 poll., alæ 2·3.

LOXIA LUZONIENSIS, sp. n.

♂. Similis *L. curvirostræ* ♂, sed magis rosacea. ♀. Similis *L. curvirostræ* ♀, sed magis grisescens, pectore et uropygio vix flavicante tinctis. Long. tot. 5·6 poll., alæ 3·3.

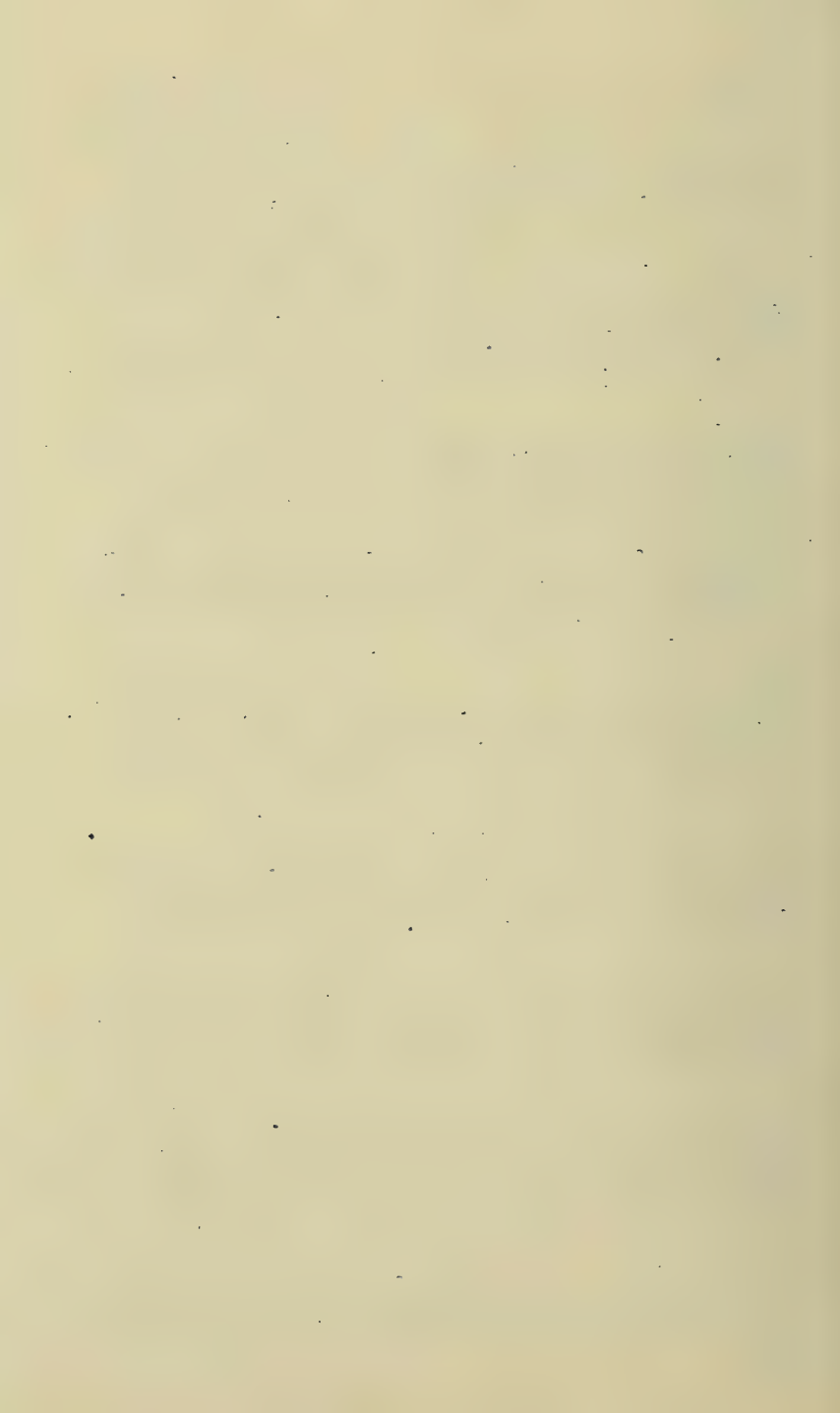
SCOPS LONGICORNIS, sp. n.

Similis *S. pennato*, sed tarso imo nudo, et cornibus plumosis longissimis 1·5 distinguenda. Long. tot. 8 poll., alæ 5·6.

Mr. Henry Seebohm describes a new Blackbird as

MERULA THOMASSONI, sp. n.

M. similis M. papuensi, sed multo minor (ala 4·75 poll., cauda 3·75) et saturatior, dorso, alis, caudâque nigris, minimè brunneis ; pileo undique, gutture et præpectore totis nigro-fumosis.



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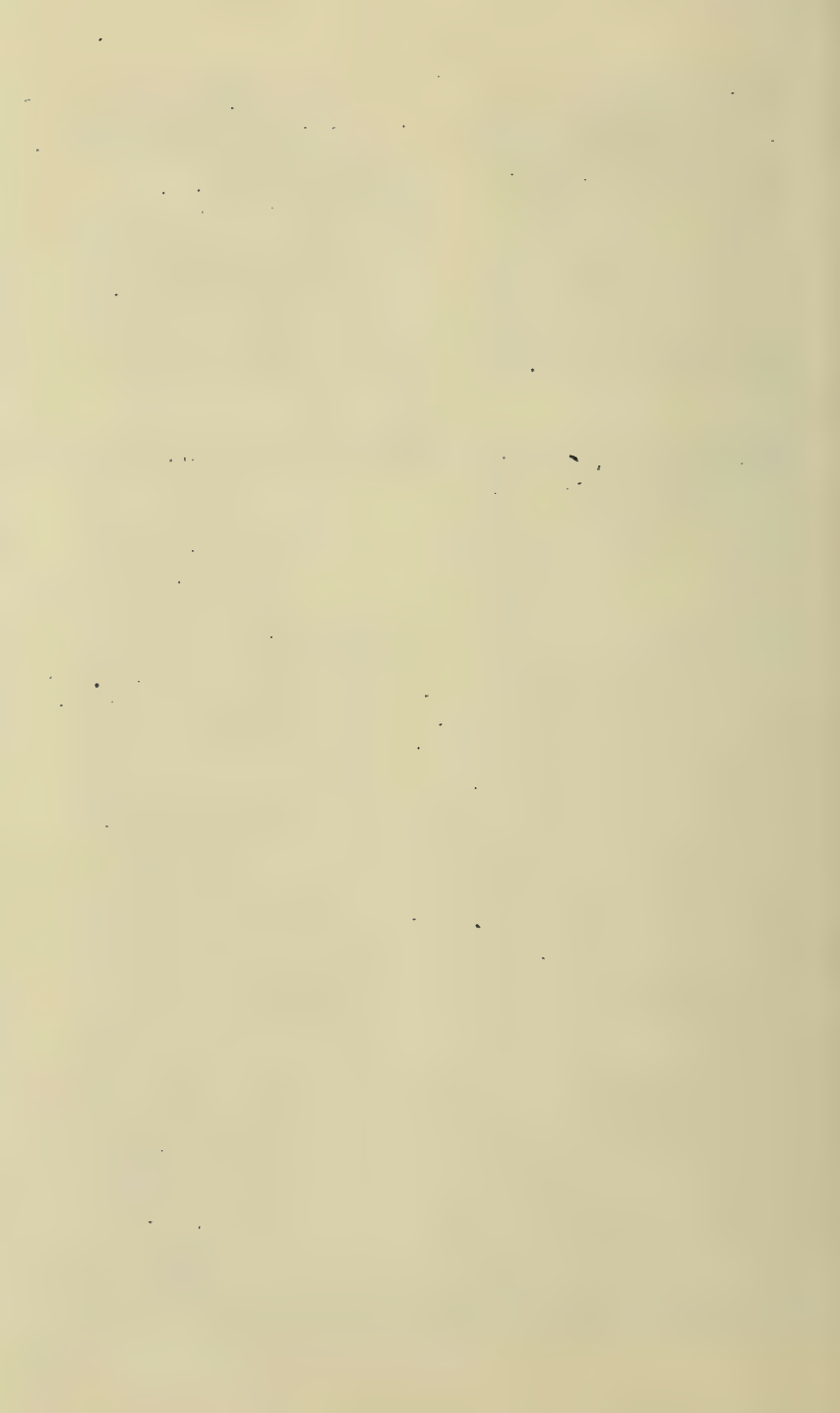
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BULLETIN
OF THE
BRITISH ORNITHOLOGISTS' CLUB.

EDITED BY
R. BOWDLER SHARPE, LL.D.

VOLUME II.

*ON SOME OF THE MAIN FEATURES IN THE
EVOLUTION OF THE BIRD'S WING.*

BY
EDWARD DEGEN.

LONDON:

R. H. PORTER, 18 PRINCES STREET, CAVENDISH SQUARE.

JULY 1894.

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PREFACE.

THE following paper, written by Mr. EDWARD DEGEN, and read before the inaugural meeting of the Club on the 5th of October, 1892, is now presented to the Members as the second volume of the 'Bulletin.'

In order that the value of this important contribution should not be impaired owing to the author's absence in Melbourne, I have invoked the assistance of Mr. W. P. Pycraft, who is engaged on researches of the same class of subjects and who has kindly edited the paper. The expenses of publishing this volume have, on Dr. Sclater's suggestion, been most liberally defrayed by Mr. J. P. Gassiot, F.Z.S.

R. BOWDLER SHARPE,

Editor.

INTRODUCTION.

HAVING now fulfilled a most agreeable task, I submit Mr. Degen's paper to my brother ornithologists as a most suggestive and helpful contribution to a by no means unimportant subject. That the two apparently insignificant feathers stowed away in the carpal region of the bird's wing should really be missing links of no small value, is a fact which I feel sure time will prove, and Mr. Degen is to be congratulated on having been the first to chronicle their existence.

Mingled with the unfeigned pleasure which the task of editing has afforded me, there runs a strain of melancholy in the reflection that, but for an over-anxious fear lest I should be publishing a matter of trivial interest, I myself should have mentioned the existence of these feathers some months before Mr. Degen's paper was read ; and the author has kindly given me credit for this discovery (p. xviii). The loss, however, is mine, and ornithological science is the gainer, for Mr. Degen has not only graphically described the topography of the carpal region in general, and these feathers in particular, but he has most skilfully marshalled an array of useful facts, out of which he has contrived to construct for us an ideal Archæornithic wing, which cannot fail to command attention from all who are seriously interested in this subject. I must beg to be allowed here, however, to say that, for my own part, I do not altogether

accept the conclusions which the author has arrived at; but on this subject I will say nothing more for the present.

I have abstained from comment throughout the paper as much as possible, partly for the reason that I do not wish either to overburden the essay with footnotes, or to distract attention from the main theme, and partly because I have in hand what I trust will prove an exhaustive account of the whole pterylography of the bird's wing, in which it is hoped that, amongst other things, the mystery of mysteries,—aquantocubitalism,—will be solved. It remains, therefore, only to say that all side-issues arising out of the present paper will be treated of thoroughly in my coming contribution, which has been aided materially by Mr. Degen's work.

W. P. PYCRAFT.

Dept. Comparative Anatomy,
University Museum, Oxford.
June 20, 1894..

ON SOME OF THE MAIN FEATURES IN THE EVOLUTION OF THE BIRD'S WING.

BY

EDWARD DEGEN.

(With Notes by W. P. PYCRAFT, M.B.O.U., Assistant to the
Linacre Professor of Comparative Anatomy, Oxford.)

THE close attention which has been paid during recent years to the study of the Pterylography of Birds shows that considerable importance is attached to the character and arrangement of the plumage as a factor in the classification of the Class *Aves*. Instead of regarding the feathering of the bird's body as a mass of plumes arranged haphazard and without significance, it has been found by gradual study and examination that a perfect order and sequence of arrangement is discernible, and ornithologists have not disdained to employ the distribution of the feather-tracts, the presence or absence of powder-down patches, the arrangement of the coverts and the quills, &c., as aids to arriving at a natural classification of Birds.

The full recognition of the importance of Pterylography as a means towards classification commenced with the work of the great Nitzsch. It must be remembered, however, that Nitzsch chiefly directed his attention to the distribution of the feather-tracts, and did not treat of the relation of the quills and the wing-coverts in any great detail. This subject was elaborated by Sundevall; and in more recent days the wings of birds have formed the objects of study of many well-known anatomists. A new interest, however, was imparted to the subject when the late Mr. R. S. Wray

published his celebrated paper "On some Points in the Morphology of the Wings of Birds" in the 'Proceedings of the Zoological Society of London' for 1887. In this paper Mr. Wray has given an historical sketch which must be read by every inquirer into the development of the study and importance of Pterylography. Wray's work is indisputably the best on this subject up to the present time; but it is far from being exhaustive, and there are many points unexplained, though not wholly overlooked, by the lamented author, who would have undoubtedly pushed his studies further had not his career been cut short by death.

Mr. Goodchild's paper on the "Cubital Coverts of the Euornithes in relation to Taxonomy," published in the 'Proceedings of the Royal Physical Society of Edinburgh' for 1890-91 (vol. x.), has also proved a useful contribution to our knowledge of the subject, and he especially endeavours to supplement Wray's work as regards the peculiar break in the outline of the bird's wing, caused by the absence of the fifth cubital remex.

I shall have occasion in the course of the present paper to refer to the labours of my predecessors in the field of Pterylography, and especially I must mention how much I have been indebted to the excellent work which has been done by Mr. W. P. Pycraft, whose paper, entitled "A Contribution to the Pterylography of Birds' Wings," published in the 'Transactions of the Leicester Literary and Philosophical Society,' vol. ii. (1890), is again a great advance in our knowledge of the subject, and brings it once more up to date. Mr. Pycraft has supplemented Mr. Wray's work in many important particulars, and I have to acknowledge the assistance which I have received from his valuable essay.

Finally, I may state that the occasion of my taking up this branch of study was the interest which was manifested in Pterylography by Dr. Bowdler Sharpe, who pointed out to me certain peculiarities in the wings of the *Charadriidæ* which he could not comprehend, and begged me to look into the subject. In the course of time I became quite as much interested in the matter as was my kind friend Dr. Sharpe,

and, pursuing my studies further and further, I ultimately arrived at the conclusions set forth in the present paper. The particular feather which puzzled Dr. Sharpe was an apparent "median" covert in the Snipes (*Gallinago*), the peculiar pattern of which is alluded to below. It is situated on that portion of the wing which is commonly called the "wrist" (fig. 1, C.c., p. xi), and, so far as the material provided by Dr. Sharpe discloses, it is always present. *In no form of bird that I have examined hitherto has it been absent* *.

This feather further forms the *first* of a series of coverts, and is always shorter than those succeeding it. For comparison I would point out that it is equivalent to the first of the *major* coverts of the digitals or primaries—that is to say that, taking the primary coverts in their order, and commencing from the distal end of the wing, we find that they begin with a short one also.

The feather which is under consideration may be said to divide the wing characteristically into two parts, answering to the two principal anatomical components of the fore-arm, viz. the *manus* and the *antibrachium* respectively. Our feather is sometimes conspicuously indicated in the bird's wing, as, for instance, in the Snipes (*Gallinago*), where it is plainly tipped with white like the major coverts.

In the majority of birds, so far as I see, the uniformity in general coloration of the wing-coverts lends no special opportunity for the recognition of the special feather in question ;

* [Speaking generally this would appear to be the case, but we must be prepared to find exceptions, and these apparently occur in the *Pici* and *Upupidæ*. In these birds, so far as I have yet been able to discover, this feather appears to be absent; whether or not this is actually the case, depends upon the identity of a feather here present which apparently represents one of the two feathers to be described (p. x). On the whole, this feather (reduced to a semiplume in the *Pici*, and well developed and pennaceous in the *Upupidæ*) justifies the view that it represents *not* the feather to which the footnote refers ("carpal covert," p. xviii), but the "carpal remex" (p. x). Till this point is cleared up the fixity of the "carpal covert" must be considered subject to exceptions.

I hope to discuss this matter more fully, together with some interesting modifications, in a forthcoming paper.—W. P. P.]

but I believe it to be always present, and to be discoverable on careful investigation.

This feather seems at first sight to be supernumerary, as there is no remex to which it appears to belong. Nevertheless it is always accompanied by a small feather, situated beneath it, as has already been pointed out by Mr. Wray, whose detecting eye it did not escape. The former of these two feathers, however, he erroneously referred to the second series of coverts, viz. the "median," as it is frequently placed, in fact in certain families *always*, on the proximal side of the first metacarpal flight-feather. He concluded that it belonged to the series of "median" coverts, where it assumed the function of a "major" covert.

The constant presence, however, of an accessory feather* (generally in a vestigial or plumaceous condition) induced me to trace its origin and value, as being the only means of ascertaining any reliable data as to the value of the "covert" in question.

At first sight this "covert"-feather presents all the characteristics of a true major covert, and this opinion is confirmed by its texture and coloration. I have been fortunate enough to examine some fresh specimens of birds in a state of moult, and there I have found this "covert" behaving in exactly the same manner and following the line of the other "major" coverts.

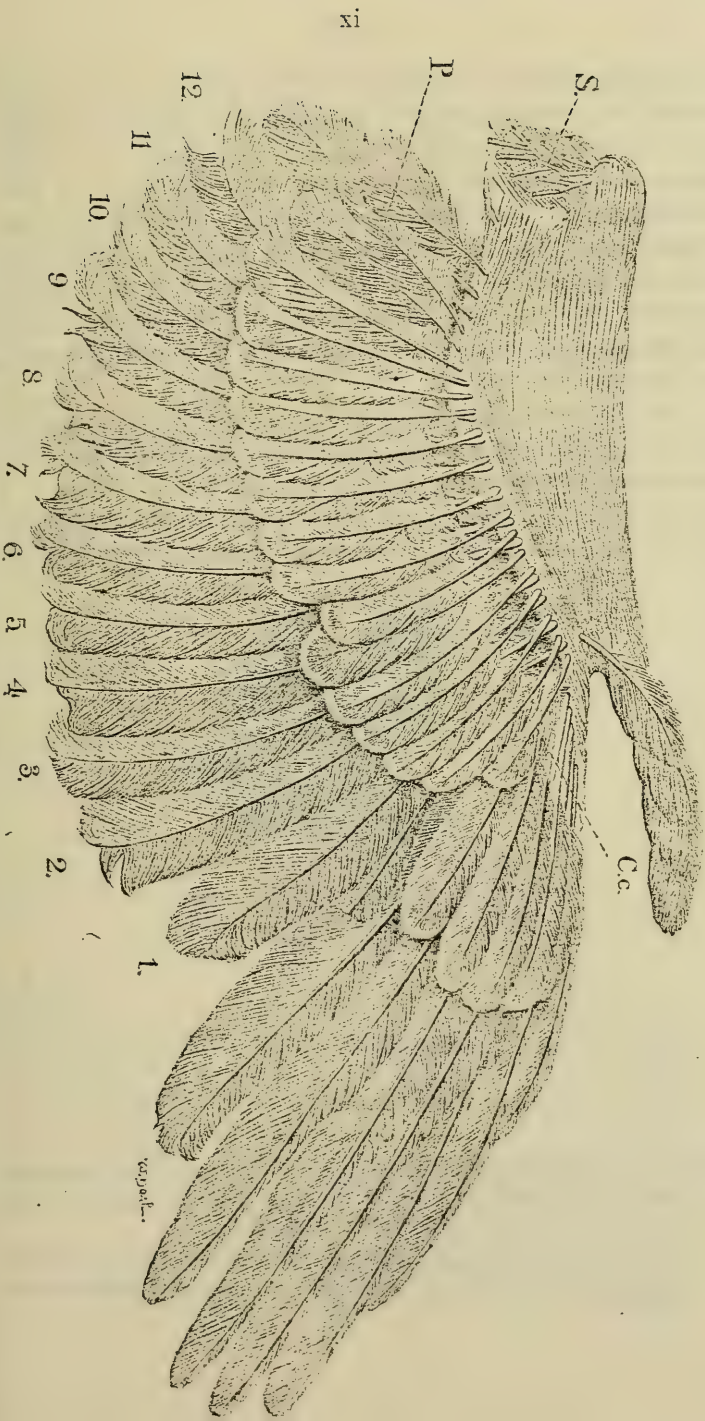
I had before me a moulting specimen of a Jay, and here the "covert" made its appearance in the same manner and

* [Apparently this feather is much more frequently absent than is the "covert." It will probably be found to be wanting in all Passeriformes, possibly in many of the Coraciiformes, and some Cuculiformes, e. g. *Turacus persa*. There seems little doubt but that it is absent in *Psophitta crepitans*, *Dicholophus cristatus*, *Opisthocomus cristatus*, *Leptoptilus javanicus*, and *Plotus ankinga*.

Space, and the incomplete stage of my researches, renders all reference to variations from the normal inadvisable here.

The only examples of the species here enumerated that I have been enabled to examine in a "fresh" condition, in this connection, are *Opisthocomus cristatus* and *Leptoptilus javanicus*, and for this boon I am indebted to the kindness of Dr. Slater.—W. P. P.]

Fig. 1.

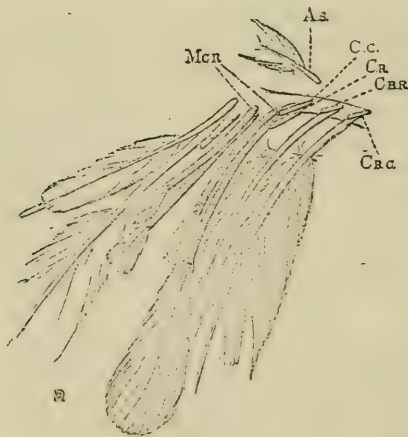


Extended right wing of a Sparrow-Hawk (*Accipiter nisus*). Dorsal view, showing the disposition of the remiges and major coverts.

at the same instant as the other "major" coverts of the *cubitus*, it being the last to appear. The moult was taking place simultaneously with that of the remiges, the order commencing, from within outwards, with the fourth or fifth cubital remex. The metacarpal remiges in this Jay and their respective coverts were just completely moulted, and the fact that our disputed "covert" was not included in their moult, but was following the same course as the other cubital coverts, is good *primâ facie* evidence that it belongs naturally to the latter series.

Confirmatory evidence, if required, will be seen in the accompanying figure, which illustrates the moulting of the metacarpal remiges and their coverts in the left wing of a Sparrow-Hawk; here the moult is simultaneous, but it has not yet commenced with the cubital remiges or their coverts,

Fig. 2.



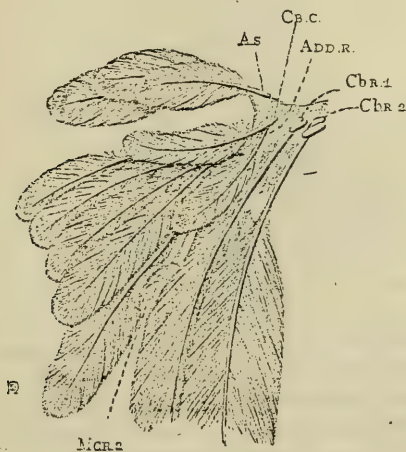
Portion of the left wing of a Sparrow-Hawk (*Accipiter nisus*), showing the moulting condition of the 1st and 2nd metacarpal remiges. The carpal covert and its remex have been cut short.

A.s. Ala spuria. C.c. Carpal covert. C.r. Carpal remex. C.b.r. Cubital remex. C.b.c. Cubital covert. M.c.r. Metacarpal remex.

and I found that the disputed "covert," with its accessory plume, had not partaken of the metacarpal moult, but, like the cubital coverts, were still *old* feathers (fig. 2).

In the right wing of the same bird (fig. 3) the moulting of the metacarpals was a little further advanced. The new coverts were those of an adult bird, with no pale tip. The cubitals, which had not commenced to moult, had all of them the pale rusty tip to the feather which is characteristic of the immature Sparrow-Hawk; and here again our disputed "covert" partook of the colour of the other cubitals, and had the same rusty tip—further evidence that it belonged to the same series.

Fig. 3.



Right wing of same specimen as fig. 2. The moulting of the 1st and 2nd metacarpal remiges has proceeded a stage further. The carpal covert and remex are intact.

For the purpose of rendering comparison easier the wing has been drawn reversed.

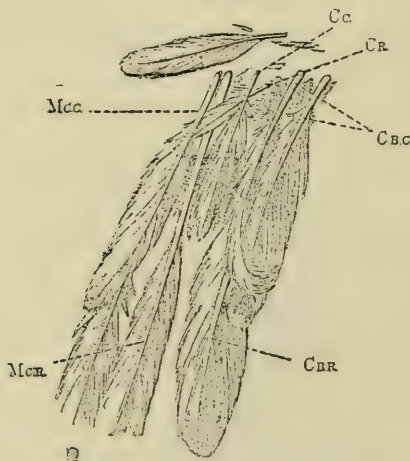
A.S. Ala spuria. ADD.R. Accessory remex = carpal remex. Cb.C. Carpal covert. Cb.R. 1 & 2. Cubital remex 1 & 2. Mc.R. 2. Metacarpal remex 2.

It must be recognized that notwithstanding the similarity in colour or texture which would ally the disputed "covert"

with either of the series of cubital coverts, it would be rash to jump at this conclusion off-hand, especially when it is remembered that it is not unfrequently found in closer proximity to the metacarpals than the cubitals. A certain independency of station might not unreasonably be accorded to it, if its position in the wing of the Duck be noticed.

In the *Anatidæ* the disputed "covert" is placed midway between the metacarpals and the cubitals (fig. 4).

Fig. 4.



Carpal region of the left wing of a Wild Duck (*Anas boscas*), showing the carpal covert and accessory remex (carpal remex) lying in the diastema between the metacarpal and cubital remiges.

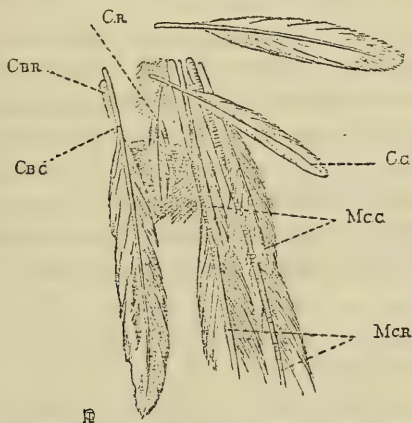
C.C. Carpal covert. C.R. Carpal remex. Cb.C. Cubital coverts. Cb.R. Cubital remiges. Mc.R. Metacarpal remiges. Mc.C. Metacarpal coverts.

The space between these two series of feathers is greater in the Ducks than in any other birds with which I am acquainted, and is far in excess of the interspace between any two of the cubital remiges. In the wing of *Dendrocygna*, which I have made the subject of my observations, the position of the "covert" is seen to perfection, though that of any Duck answers the purpose equally well. Here we find the "covert" resting on the metacarpus, leaving the carpus proper free from contact with any flight-feather. Its position is seen

in the figure just referred to, and its independence from the 1st metacarpal is established.

It therefore became necessary to trace and identify this same "covert" in other families of Birds, and I quickly discovered several intermediate conditions of its location. In the Ptarmigan, for instance (fig. 5), it shows a tendency to associate itself with the 1st metacarpal remex. There is really no actual connection, and its position is sufficiently definite to preserve its independent individuality. This condition is therefore only a modification of the same that we saw above in the Duck.

Fig. 5.



Carpal region of the right wing of a Ptarmigan (*Lagopus mutus*), showing the position of the carpal covert and remex.

Letters as in previous figures.

In justice to those observers who, like the late Mr. Wray, considered this "covert" to be intimately related to the 1st metacarpal remex, and referred it to the series of median coverts with the function of a major covert, I must honestly confess that at first sight this would seem to be the most feasible explanation. It seemed to me that the only satisfactory way of determining the question would be to clear up the problem of the relationship of the major coverts with their respective remiges on the *manus*.

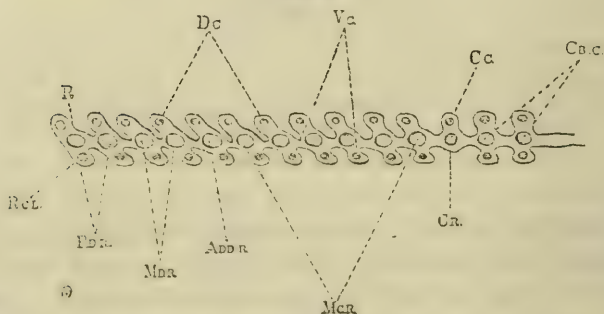
Mr. Wray, in his paper before mentioned, gives a figure

(pl. xxxii. figs. *a*, *b*) which represents a section through the feathers of a Duck's wing, in which every dorsal covert (coloured *yellow*) is connected by a membrane to the shaft of each consecutive flight-feather, lying *proximal* to it.

The accessory plume which we have spoken of above as "vestigial" was considered by Mr. Wray (and so figured by him) as the proper major covert of the 1st metacarpal remex. Our disputed "covert" having been included by him in the median series, thus disappears for the moment from our argument, which now deals with the major coverts only. Had not Mr. Wray thus accounted for the function of this vestigial plume, this 1st metacarpal remex must have gone without a covert at all.

Having had a suspicion that there might have been some misapprehension on the part of Mr. Wray as to the connection of the metacarpal remiges and their respective coverts, I next made experiments on sections of the wings of young Sparrows and Fowls under the microscope. This study clearly revealed to me a different correlation of the major coverts and the remiges in the metacarpo-digital portion of the wing. The microscopical sections (fig. 6), after correction,

Fig. 6.



Microscopical section of the wing of a young bird showing the relative positions of the coverts and remiges.

ADD.R. Addigital remex. C.C. Carpal covert. C.R. Carpal remex. Mc.R. Metacarpal remex. MD.R. Middigital remex. Pd.R. Predigital remex. RCL. Remicle. D.C. Dorsal coverts. V.C. Ventral coverts.

showed beyond any doubt that the major coverts, intersituated between the closely set quills, are placed *distally* to the remiges to which they belong. They are, in fact, enclosed by the same identical membrane, which serves as a common fold for each set (remex and major coverts).

The correctness of my contention as to the distal position of each major covert on the metacarpal remiges is confirmed by the moulting feathers of the female Sparrow-Hawk previously mentioned. There, as the figures (figs. 2 & 3, pp. xii & xiii) clearly show, the first, second, and third metacarpal remiges, together with their respective coverts, are in a graduated state of development. The vane of the first is in a semi-developed condition, and has its covert issuing from the same pocket or fold in the *ala membrana*, and reaching about half-way down the remex. In the second quill the major covert is comparatively longer, as it reaches to the same point, namely, the end of the horny envelope, though the quill itself is not so developed, as in the first remex. But in the third remex both the quill and its covert are scarcely developed, and are not only clearly enclosed in the same envelope, but the distal position of the covert is beyond doubt.

As regards the relation of the cubital remiges and their major coverts, my observations confirm the positions assigned to them in Mr. Wray's plate; but I must remark that in a young Sparrow I found the first cubital major covert not placed proximately to its remex, but situated longitudinally in the centre of the dorsum of the shaft of the remex, while all the following ones were distinctly inserted at the proximal side of the base of the quills. The major coverts of the metacarpals in the same stage of growth are placed distally to their respective remiges; and it would thus appear that the wrist-joint becomes the centrifugal point from which the coverts place themselves left and right, distally or proximally, as the portion of the wing is either metacarpo-digital or cubital (see fig. 6).

To return once more to our disputed "covert." I trust that it is now plain that from the variation in its position it can never be considered a metacarpal covert, and I propose

in future to speak of it as *the carpal covert*, a term which I believe to be justified by its relation to the carpus. As regards its origin and significance I shall now proceed to explain myself further, and I shall endeavour to prove that my *carpal covert* belongs to the system of major cubital coverts, and that its attendant remex is in process of disappearing.

First as to the variation in the position of this *carpal covert*. It seems to me that there is a reason for this variation, and that an unquestionable solution for the displacement of this feather is to be found in the mechanical and statical functions to which the bird's wing is subjected, according to the amount of exertion required in connection with its flight or mode of living.

As Mr. Wray was satisfied that the *carpal covert* belonged to the median series, it is my duty to explain why I am convinced that it is a major cubital covert. For the purpose of determining whether this feather belongs to the major or median series of coverts, the ordinary routine of turning up row after row is not sufficient to arrive at a reliable conclusion on the subject. By the examination, however, of a number of moulting Passeres, where the dorsal series of major coverts have become sufficiently developed, it will be seen that the carpal covert makes its appearance along with the remainder of the *major* coverts on the *cubitus*. This was seen very distinctly in the case of a Blue Titmouse (*Parus cæruleus*), where the major coverts of the metacarpus had not yet moulted, and where there was no evidence of an immediate moult.

The cubital coverts, however, were clean moulted, and the carpal covert had followed suit. This statement has also been verified by Mr. Pycraft, who informs me that he had come to the conclusion that no other solution was possible than that this covert, which I have named the "carpal" covert, belonged to the major cubital series*.

* [Mr. Degen might further have stated that I (at that time) believed this covert to be the major covert of the degenerate feather beneath it, which represented a remex. Recently my faith in this theory has been somewhat shaken, and I now find myself in an uneasy state of doubt.—W. P. P.]

I have likewise repeatedly observed the same arrangement in the wings of young sparrows and chickens.

Having thus established the value of the *carpal covert* as that of a true *major* covert, it becomes necessary to inquire further into its frequently abnormal position, for it is sometimes ultimately attached to the proximal side of the 1st metacarpal remex, as already mentioned. We have seen, however, by the test of microscopical examination, that on the *metacarpus* the metacarpal coverts grow distally to their respective remiges. Hence it follows that the 1st metacarpal remex is not without its own major covert, as Mr. Wray imagined, although the *carpal covert* often assumes the position of a true *major* covert to the 1st metacarpal remex, especially when it is found closely attached to the latter.

My next step was to inquire into the practical utility and origin of the *carpal covert*. An analogous case of suppression seemed to me to exist in the 5th cubital remex, which is absent in several groups of birds, a phenomenon for which no satisfactory explanation has been offered up to the present time. To this the name of "aquincubitalism" * has been given and accepted, in contradistinction to "quincubitalism," the condition when the 5th cubital remex is *always present*. Like Mr. Wray, I have also never found a single trace of a 5th remex in a vestigial form, though I fully believe in the possibility of such a discovery, when complete material is at hand for examination †.

In aquincubitalism the presence of both an upper and a lower wing-covert, together with the relative distance between the 4th and 6th, leaves not the slightest doubt as to the 5th remex being missing. The carpal covert, accompanied as it is by a feather which lies beneath it, and which varies

* Dr. Gadow in Bronn's 'Thier-Reichs,' Aves, anatomische Theil, p. 557, writes "aquinto-" and "quintocubital," which is perhaps preferable.

† [Up to the present time the mystery of "aquincubitalism" remains unsolved. Whether the investigation upon which I am now engaged will lead to anything remains to be seen, but just now I am rather sanguine of success; suffice it to say, I do not think it will ever be found in a "vestigial condition."—W. P. P.]

from a vestigial "plume" in one group of birds to a well-developed "penna" in another, appears to present at first sight a parallel analogy to aquitocubitalism. But the variation in the texture of the underlying feather, from a plumaceous to a pennaceous state, in the case of the carpal covert, suggests a different theory as to its value, especially as the underlying feather referred to lies on the dorsum of the *ala membrana*, instead of on the ventral side of the latter, as is the case in the aquitocubital ventral major covert. This was fully confirmed by the examination of a Great Black-backed Gull in a state of moult; and it is evident that in this family the underlying feather above alluded to, which is so generally *vestigial*, becomes a fully developed and truly *pennaceous* feather, exceeding both in length and strength the *carpal covert* itself. Another important fact in the case of the Black-backed Gull (and one which, in my opinion, is quite decisive as to the value of the lower of the two carpal feathers) was that both the carpal covert and its pennaceous remex were moulting under exactly the same conditions as the two preceding metacarpals with their coverts, and were behaving in precisely the same manner. There can be no doubt, therefore, as to the origin of the *carpal covert*, and it must be looked upon as a normal *upper major covert*, of which the remex has either become reduced to a vestigial plume or exists only as a dwarfed pennaceous feather.

The suppression of the remex in the case of the 5th cubital is patent, while the suppression of the remex on the wrist-joint (still, as we have seen, in a transition stage of annihilation) is not so evident. Being certain in my own mind as to the accuracy of the facts disclosed, it occurred to me that further analogies, based upon similar principles, might be traced in following up the series and divisions of the fore limb of the bird. In this attempt I have been greatly assisted by the accurate and very forcible descriptions given by Mr. W. P. Pyecraft in his paper read before the Leicester Literary and Philosophical Society, and printed in their Transactions, vol. ii. pt. 3 (1890). Here he corrects the erroneous views of many authors on the subject of the

so-called tertiaries and the humerals (=the *parapteron* of Nitzsch) (see fig. 1, p. xi). In the paper mentioned, Mr. Pycraft very justly doubts the correctness of the terminology applied to the set of feathers variously called "tertiaries" or "tertials," and he proposes to call them "inner secondaries." According to his deductions from other writers on the same subject, the feathers forming the *parapteron* have apparently no other purpose than to connect the gap between the cubitals and the scapulars. To me it seems that the term *parapteron*, as applied by Nitzsch, should be retained, inasmuch as this term conveys no confusion as to its meaning, and has the further advantage of leaving open the question of the serial value. To call them "tertiaries," as has been done by certain writers, suggests at once the idea that they are of *the same value* as the primaries or secondaries, which are flight-feathers of the first magnitude. Mr. Pycraft himself, in his subsequent descriptions of the *parapteron*, proves that its feathers belong to the series of *coverts*, being indeed a continuation of the major series of coverts of the cubitus, a conclusion which my own studies have amply verified.

Not only has this set, the feathers of which are serial with the metacarpal coverts, been derived from the upper part of the bird's body, being identical with the rest of the remigial covert-series, both dorsal and ventral, as Mr. Pycraft has proved to be the case, but there are two underlying rows as well. The upper series of the last-named can be traced with equal distinctness to be a continuation of the ventral major coverts. Lastly, in preparing a wing of a Demoiselle Crane, I discovered that this series of ventral major coverts on the *parapteron* is accompanied by a series of smaller coverts.

These turn their dorsal surface upwards, in the manner described by Mr. Pycraft, and they are nothing more than the *ventral median* coverts.

Thus we find a row of *dorsal* major coverts accompanied by their median coverts, as well as a row of *ventral* major coverts, also accompanied by *their* median coverts, and yet

the whole series of remiges, which ought to be there, is absent. The series of feathers on the "parapteron" is developed under exactly the same conditions as both the "primary" and "secondary" series of remiges, excepting that in the parapteron the remiges are entirely wanting. This possibility of suppression of flight-feathers, while the coverts are retained, affords an explanation of the case of the 5th cubital remex and the correlation of the covert-feather on the wrist.

These notes have been put together at the request of my friend Dr. Sharpe on the eve of my departure to my new home in Australia, where I hope to find opportunity and time to further pursue my studies by following up the analogy on to the scapular tract, where I believe I have found similar traces of remigial suppression. I would propose the term "pterylomorphism" for the phenomenon of suppressed quills with the retention of their main coverts.

We must go back to a very remote parent stock for a full comprehension of the phenomenon, for the deduction follows from the fact that, save the primitive or vestigial remex on the wrist-joint, there are absolutely no positive traces of other vestigial flight-feathers where they are absent at the present day. The agency of their disappearance must therefore be a very deep-rooted one.

I will conclude with a few remarks on the origin of aquinto-cubitalism. To provide a plausible theory and explanation of this extraordinary, if not mysterious, phenomenon in some of the groups and families of Birds, it is necessary to revert once more to our carpal covert, so inconsequently placed, to all appearances, in the bird's wing. I believe it to be the key to the entire problem of the evolution and morphology of the fore limb of the bird.

As I have already mentioned in my introductory remarks to this paper, this feather is, apart from its colour in certain cases, readily distinguishable from the rest of the major coverts by its relative shortness, varying in degree, but never attaining the length of the rest of the series.

Sometimes, however, as shown in the case of the female Sparrow-Hawk before alluded to, the 6th *cubital covert* is shorter than the 5th or the 7th, between which it has its position (figs. 2, 3, pp. xii, xiii). This is not, as might be imagined, a mere variable or spontaneous occurrence, but is a constant feature in many families of birds, particularly those which are "aquintocubital." The same peculiarity obtains in the 9th cubital covert, at least in all the larger Waders, the Herons, and Cranes which I have examined up to the present. This tends to show that it is not a mere chance, but is the outcome of some definite arrangement.

These shorter *major coverts* (I am alluding to the dorsal ones only on the present occasion) *distinctly mark the commencement of a series*. The covert which I call the "carpal covert" commences the series 0 to the 5th and includes the latter—making a total of 6, which together form the *first* group of the cubitals or secondaries. The 6th marks the commencement of the *second* group, extending to the 8th and inclusive of the latter: this series consisting of 3 coverts. With the 9th commences the *third* group, which embraces the remainder of the cubital coverts belonging to the posterior portion of the ulna.

The better to comprehend my argument, these coverts are coloured red in the Plate accompanying this paper (figs. 1 & 3), showing their actual positions on the wing, and representing the condition and limits of all three series*.

Fig. 1 represents the wing of a bird, in which the 5th cubital remex is absent, but its natural position is indicated by a quill emphasized by transverse lines, so as to show the entire normal number of cubitals, which varies, according to Sundevall, from 9 to as many as 40 or even more.

* An analogous case,—not insisted upon in the present paper, to avoid complication,—can be seen on the manus of every bird's wing, where the series of major coverts equally commence with a short covert either belonging to the 10th or 11th (remicle) flight-feather. In fig. 3 of the diagram, the actual position of the remiges may be seen in their relation to the respective bones which carry them.

The rudimentary quill on the carpus is marked 1'. It is found generally in a vestigial state of growth in the majority of birds, but, as we have seen, in some instances, such as in the Gulls, there is an actually developed quill-feather. This fact is indicated in the diagram by dotted lines, the quill being represented as of full value with the other remiges, as it undoubtedly was at one time.

The "carpal" covert in its true intermediary position is best seen in the Ducks. It has been cut short in the Plate (fig. 1) and coloured red.

The metacarpo-digitals, numbered 1-11, represent the normal number in most birds, including the "remicle," which is really the 11th metacarpo-digital remex (mostly rudimentary)*.

The quills of the *ala spuria* are marked A.s. in the diagram, to the number of 4 on the 1st phalanx of the 1st digit.

Fig. 2 in the Plate is intended to show merely the fore limb of the bird, with the component osseous parts slightly interspaced, for greater distinctness, at their respective joints.

The 2nd and 3rd metacarpal bones are intersected by dotted lines. In fully adult birds these bones are ankylosed at their epiphyses, but they are completely separate in the embryo.

In the Penguin, however, as may be seen in the specimen exhibited in the Index Series of the British Museum (Natural History), we find a very good example of an intermediate stage, where the ankylosis still indicates the original separation of the bones. It indicates, in fact, the original polydactyle plan in the manus of this class of Anamniotic Vertebrates.

The skeletiferous parts, as seen in fig. 3 of the Plate, are the same as those in fig. 2, but are divided up to the elbow-joint in a longitudinal section, so as to allow me space

* There is great confusion as to the value of the so-called "remicle." Sometimes this is treated as a remex, sometimes as a covert. There ought to be no difficulty in this matter, for when it is an aborted *remex* it shows the fact by its imbrication, and when it is a *covert* it lies in a superior position and is distally imbricated by the adjoining covert.

to demonstrate what I consider to have been the original position of the remiges.

The parts marked A and B represent digits II. and III. respectively, together with the scaphoid (radiale) and cuneiform (ulnare) bones at their proximal end. It is assumed that these digits were permanently free—not fused as in existing Birds; their distance apart has, of course, been greatly exaggerated in the figure, for the sake of demonstration. Such a manus is characteristic of the Archornithiform type, which, so far as we know, must always have had the metacarpal and finger-bones separate. [Cf. the characters given by Dr. Gadow (P. Z. S. 1892, p. 236) for his subclass *Archornithes*.]

The section from the carpus to the humero-radio-ulnar articulation is an *artificial* severance, introduced in the sketch in order to obtain room to demonstrate the question of the feathers in an easier manner, just as the digits II. and III. have been drawn widely apart for the same reason. It must be explained at once that the question of separation of these bones does not enter into the discussion at all.

The *major coverts* which come under consideration in our argument are coloured red. On the ulna the remiges ranging from the 1st to the 8th are cut off short.

The position of the carpal remex (belonging to the carpal covert, which has been the subject of our previous comment) is indicated by a cross (×). Its suppression is undoubtedly analogous to the suppression of the 5th cubital remex, marked by a dagger (†) in fig. 3. We are, in fact, better able to understand the apparent anomaly of a flight-feather being suppressed at such an unexpected point when we compare the one instance with the other.

The process of suppression is going on under our very eyes, as we see in the case of the carpal remex, which still exists, though in a dwarfed condition, in the Gulls, and is not vestigial as in other families of birds. There is a reason for this suppression, for the carpal remex occurs at a point of the wing where the existence of the quill of a flight-feather becomes extremely difficult, owing to the mechanical

requirements of flight. It is, in fact, so much in the way, that its suppression must have become an absolute necessity for the bird's comfort. I was much struck by this fact on examining the wing of a dead *Gypaetus*, where the carpal covert is evidently out of place in the modern wing. On expanding and closing the wing, as any one can verify in a dead Hawk, the carpal covert is certainly not at home in its present position, and folds over most awkwardly when one closes the wing.

When the metacarpal bones became fused in process of time, instead of being separate as in the ancient bird, there was obviously no room for the remiges and coverts of the 3rd and 4th digits to coexist with those of the second, as the metacarpo-digitals occupy all the available space to such an extent that their position is very much cramped.

My belief is therefore that in process of time the feathers of the 3rd and 4th digits were *forced back on to the ulna*, where we may still trace their presence. To make this clear in the Plate, the feathers are represented in what I believe to have been their *original* position, and *are again represented in their actual situation on the ulna*.

Thus the series 6-8, coloured green in the Plate, of which the first flight-feather possesses a shorter covert, must originally have formed an independent group. This group was derived from a fourth digit, now expunged, the previous existence of which is sufficiently indicated by the shorter major covert—to judge from analogy of the 1st metacarpo-digital major covert.

The next group, preceding the one just dealt with, consists of the remiges 1-5, and includes also the flight-feather about to become suppressed, and numbered 1', whose place is always indicated by the permanent carpal remex, as we have seen. The number of the quills for this group is, therefore, now six; remiges 1-4 are coloured blue. The fact that the carpal remex is sometimes situated on the base of the first metacarpal bone could not affect its serial affinity with the group under consideration, which is clearly shown by its shorter major covert. It has therefore been marked × in our Plate (fig. 3),

in order to point out at once both its present, as well as its original, position.

The fifth or quintocubital remex on the ulna, marked †, which is absent in aquintocubital birds, must have been suppressed under perfectly similar conditions as the one referred to as commencing the group, and its obvious struggle for existence is nothing more or less than a repetition of the history of the fifth cubital remex. As the latter was succeeded by a remex, and frequently had a shorter covert, it inversely shows that it closed the series of flight-feathers belonging to this group; the consequence was that it occupied the position now tenanted by the first one.

As will be seen in fig. 3 of the Plate, on the proximal phalanx of digit III. an additional remex is indicated by dotted lines, as well as a major covert represented by a red dot only. This remex, at first sight, would appear to be imaginary; but this is not altogether the case. Seeing that in all instances the second phalanx of digit II. has two pre-digitals, there is no obvious reason why the phalanx of digit III. should not at some time have had the same number. In the wings of some Argus Pheasants I found, to my intense satisfaction, besides the carpal remex with its upper major covert, in a very rudimentary condition, the series indicated which I had expected to be present occasionally. The hypothesis is therefore confirmed by an actual fact. As a further proof of its being a true series, consisting of remex and dorsal major covert, it possesses a *ventral* major covert, an occurrence which I had hitherto vainly sought for, although fully expecting it to exist. In this Pheasant the ventral major covert of the carpal set is also obvious, and serves to further strengthen the argument respecting the carpal remex with its conspicuous dorsal major covert.

For the same reason a similar probability of the existence of an additional remex on the tip of the unguis of the 4th digit has been assumed. Indeed, there is every reason for assuming that another remex with its respective major covert might at one time have existed and become eliminated, besides the 5th cubital.

It is not likely, in the case of Passerine birds (which we must consider the most highly developed and best adapted for flight), that they should be quintocubital in the sense of birds of an arrested development. The greatly reduced number of cubital flight-feathers, eleven at the most, shows distinctly that their suppression has been carried out more completely, and what appears to be a fifth cubital may in reality be the sixth, which has gone further in the process of disappearing by suppressing the respective coverts as well. In addition to the detailed description of the pterylomorphism in the bird's wing, and its reflections on the derivation of the various groups of flight-feathers, together with their main coverts, a glance at the latter shows us that we have to deal with two distinct sections of remiges on the ulna. The first section, consisting of two parts, derived from the 3rd metacarpodigit, comprises the cubitals 1-5, as well as 6-8, the latter being derived from *the lost 4th digit*. The remiges of the foregoing section, therefore, cannot be true cubitals, and must consequently be termed "remiges cubitales spuriae," or protometacarpodigitals.

The remainder of the cubitals, comprising the remiges 9-*x*, form the second section and are the true remiges, or "remiges cubitales veræ." They are always set more closely to each other on the ulna and quite cramped on the olecranon. Together with the numerous modifications of ectodermal products, it is more than probable that in the course of time the skeletiferous parts and dermal structures have been equally modified, and thus the ulna has been elongated, in order not only to receive the flight-feathers of the dispensable 3rd and 4th metacarpodigits, but also to supply the requirements of greater power of flight, an economy absolutely indispensable to the class Aves.

Having read and studied the various works and papers treating on the subject of the morphology and pteryology of the bird's wing, I have failed to find any reference as to the exact value of the quills of the 1st digit, or penna pollicis.

Mr. Wray and others seem to content themselves with

the assertion that they are remiges, without, however, giving any reliable data based upon special study.

Their insertion, as well as their texture, certainly entitles them to rank with the flight-feathers in general, except perhaps as regards the most proximal one of the 4 usually found.

This latter feather seems to stand somewhat apart from the others, at all events it is always more loosely attached to the single phalanx of digit I., and is frequently situated in close proximity to the *carpal major covert*. To assign it at once to the other supposed remiges would be rather premature. There is great difficulty in establishing the various series of dorsal coverts on the *ala spuria*. A certain amount of patience and perseverance, however, will overcome even this obstacle.

After many futile attempts I have at last succeeded in tracing and following up the series, when I found the major, median, minor, and marginal coverts to extend on the *ala spuria* in the order named.

This discovery, however, would not be sufficient proof of the value of the flight-feathers, or, as they ought to be termed, main quills, until such proofs be established.

I was fortunate enough to discover, for the first time, the presence of two ventral major coverts in the Demoiselle Crane, and although but small they were strong in texture and quite pennaceous. I have since found them in all birds except the smaller Passeres, where they probably escape detection on account of their diminutive size. Their identity as ventral major coverts is beyond doubt, from the fact of their lying immediately under the main quills with their *dorsum turned upwards*, the common character of all ventral major and median coverts which have been derived from the upper surface of the body. (Cf. Sundevall, Wray, Pycraft, &c.) This, together with the dorsal coverts, will show that the feather-quills of the *ala spuria* or *pennæ pollicis* are true remiges.

A few remarks may now be made on some points in connection with the two figures of the diagram representing

Mr. Wray's section through the wing of a bird as well as my own (fig. 6). Having found by means of microscopical sections, as already pointed out, that the dorsal major coverts of the metacarpo-digital are situated distally to their respective remiges, as is also shown by numerous instances of moulting, it will be seen that a modification in the relation of the median coverts of the 11th remex, viz. the remicle, is the natural consequence.

Some investigators of this subject (as in the case of Professor Elliott Coues) seem to have been greatly puzzled by the presence of what they believed to be two major coverts belonging to the last or 11th remex.

The relation of the major coverts to their remiges having been cleared up, as shown in my own section through the wing, which rectifies that of Mr. Wray, it will be, comparatively speaking, easy to see that such an error could simply accrue from the assumed position of the major coverts. The assumed and accessory major covert is nothing else than the true and only covert of the remicle, placed distally, in the same way as all the other major coverts.

In some measure, aquincubitalism and quintocubitalism seem to reflect on the presence or the absence of the 11th metacarpo-digital flight-feather. So stable have I found this singular occurrence, at least in all the specimens hitherto examined, that I invariably designate a bird as aquincubital if the 11th remex is present, and *vice versa* *.

From the complication that arose regarding the supposed

* [According to Dr. Gadow the following are exceptions, inas-much as, though aquincubital, they have only ten metacarpo-digitals (=primaries):—

<i>Scopus.</i>	<i>Psittaci.</i>
<i>Eurypyga.</i>	<i>Cypselus.</i>
<i>Rallus.</i>	<i>Caprimulgus.</i>
<i>Ocydromus.</i>	<i>Megapodius.</i>
<i>Himantornis.</i>	

Cf. Bronn's 'Klassen und Ordnungen des Thier-Reichs,' iv. Abtheilung. Aves, Theil I. pp. 567-570 (1886).

Many Cypselidæ have eleven remiges. *Eurylæmus javanicus*, *Acanthylis caudacuta*, and *Ceryle americana* are instances in which I have found eleven remiges, though the wings are quintocubital.—W. P. P.]

duplicate major covert of the remicle, to the covert of the 10th remex has not unfrequently been assigned the office of the remicle itself. If there is really an 11th remex present, then it can always be identified by its imbrication, which follows exactly the same rule as all the other flight-feathers, by having its proximal velum covert near the distal vane of the proximal remex, be it ever so insignificant in size.

Having endeavoured in the foregoing pages to demonstrate the identity of a covert feather, more or less conspicuous in certain genera or families, but always present, as well as its relation with respect to its serial value, and the inferences drawn from analogies, I feel it my duty to call attention to the seemingly unimportant agents which led me to explain, and find out in some degree, points for which no explanation has hitherto been given. Starting in an inverse manner (that is to say, looking out for possible analogies, which I believe I have satisfactorily proved), I could not conscientiously arrive at any other result than the one which is laid down in the Plate, with its explanation as regards pterylomorphism and its application.

When we realize the degree to which Nature takes advantage of this modification, so as to substitute quality for quantity, best seen in what must be looked upon as the most recent forms of the Class Aves, viz. the Passeres, then we can the better imagine how that, at one time or another, a type must have existed in which all the digits bore remiges, with their respective coverts, though not in a manner adapted for excessive aerial functions.

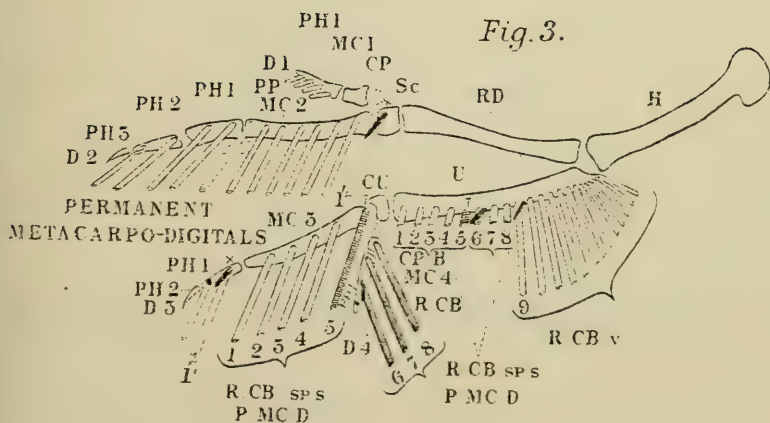
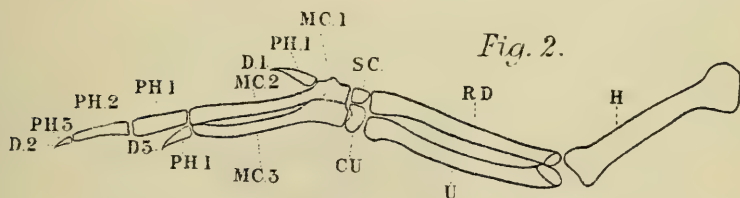
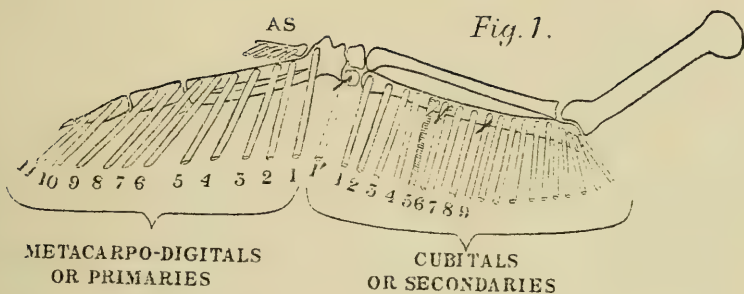
From the fact of these analogies having their traces still unmistakably indicated by the short major coverts, the sections and groups of feathers may be traced through the plumage in a more or less rectangular line, as pointed out and emphasized by Mr. Goodchild, viz. in the Plovers, &c., regarding the upper series of coverts.

To such a conclusion we must necessarily arrive from the arguments named, even had we never been acquainted with such an ancient form of Archornithes as the *Archæopteryx*.

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REFERENCES TO TERMS.

- ADD.R. Addigital remex or accessory remex.
 A.S. Ala spuria.
 CB.C. Cubital covert or coverts.
 CB.R. „ remex or remiges=secondaries.
 C.C. Carpal covert.
 C.R. „ remex.
 CP.B. „ bone.
 D. Digit or digits (digitals).
 D.C. Dorsal coverts.
 H. Humerus.
 MD.R. Middigital remex.
 MC.R. Metacarpal remex or remiges.
 MC.D. Metacarpo-digitals or primaries.
 P.MC.D. Permanent metacarpo-digitals.
 P. Parapteron.
 R.CB.SP. Remiges cubitales spurii *sive* Proto-metacarpo-digitals:
 1-4 blue, 6-8 green.
 R.CB.V. Remiges cubitales veri.
 RCL. Remicle.
 S. Scapulars.
 U. Ulna (ulnare).
 V.C. Ventral coverts.
 × Marks the movement of the remex on from the proximal
 phalanx of digit II. to its present position on the carpus.
 † Marks the movement of feather No. 5 (marked with trans-
 verse lines) of digit III. from the proximal end of the
 metacarpal to its present position on the cubitus.
 Red dashes indicate shortened coverts.
 „ dots indicate coverts possibly present at some time or another.





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P R E F A C E.

THE second session of the British Ornithologists' Club has been productive of as much useful and important work as that of the first session. Several papers on the history and distribution of Palearctic birds have been contributed to the meetings, and the exhibition of two unrecorded eggs of the Great Auk is sufficient to endow the proceedings of the Club for 1893-94 with more than ordinary interest.

The roll of members has steadily increased, and now numbers 102.

The communications during the last session have been 76. Eight new generic titles have been proposed, and forty-six new species and subspecies described.

(Signed) R. BOWDLER SHARPE,
Editor.

July 27th, 1894.

and distributed gratis to every Member *who has paid his subscription*. Copies of this Bulletin shall be published and sold at *One Shilling* each.

VI. The affairs of this Club shall be managed by a Committee to consist of the Editor of 'The Ibis,' the Editor of the 'Bulletin,' and the Secretary and Treasurer, *ex officio*, with three other Members, one of whom shall be changed every year. The Committee shall have power to make and alter the Bye-laws.

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III. No Member of the B. O. U. can attend the Meetings of the Club as a Visitor, unless his usual residence is outside the United Kingdom. Every Member of the Club introducing a visitor shall pay *One Shilling* to the Treasurer.

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OF THE
BRITISH ORNITHOLOGISTS' CLUB.

EDITED BY
R. BOWDLER SHARPE, LL.D.

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JULY 1895.

PREFACE.



THE communications to the Meetings of the B. O. Club during the past Session have not been wanting in interest or variety, and several important papers have been read.

The attendance of Members at the Monthly Meetings has grown, and the number of Members of the B. O. Union who have joined the Club has also increased, so that at the last Meeting the Treasurer was able to congratulate the Club on its list as well as on the state of its finances.

(Signed)

R. BOWDLER SHARPE,

Editor.

June 29th, 1895.

and distributed gratis to every Member *who has paid his subscription*. Copies of this Bulletin shall be published and sold at *One Shilling* each.

VI. The affairs of this Club shall be managed by a Committee to consist of the Editor of 'The Ibis,' the Editor of the 'Bulletin,' and the Secretary and Treasurer, *ex officio*, with three other Members, one of whom shall be changed every year. The Committee shall have power to make and alter the Bye-laws.

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(As amended 20th June, 1894.)

I. This Club was founded for the purpose of facilitating the social intercourse of Members of the British Ornithologists' Union. Any Member of that Union can become a Member of this Club on payment (to the Treasurer) of an entrance fee of *Five Shillings* and a subscription of *Five Shillings* for the current Session. Resignation of the Union involves resignation of the Club.

II. Members who have not paid their subscriptions before the last Meeting of the Session shall cease, *ipso facto*, to be Members of the Club, but may be reinstated on payment of arrears *and* a new entrance fee.

III. No Member of the B. O. U. can attend the Meetings of the Club as a Visitor, unless his usual residence is outside the United Kingdom. Every Member of the Club introducing a visitor shall pay *One Shilling* to the Treasurer.

IV. The Club shall meet, as a rule, on the Third Wednesday in every Month, from October to June inclusive, at such hour and place as may be arranged by the Committee. At these Meetings papers upon ornithological subjects shall be read, specimens exhibited, and discussion invited.

V. An Abstract of the Proceedings of the B. O. C. shall be printed as soon as possible after each Meeting, under the title of the 'Bulletin of the British Ornithologists' Club,'

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CHAIRMAN'S ADDRESS
ON OPENING THE THIRD SESSION
OF THE
BRITISH ORNITHOLOGISTS' CLUB, 1894.

My remarks on opening the Third Session of the B. O. C. have been unavoidably postponed until the present Meeting; but I now propose to address to you a few words on some of the recent events in Ornithology.

Section I. NEW DISCOVERIES.

More than forty years ago, as I well recollect, my former friend and master in Ornithology, Hugh Strickland, used to complain how hard it was to find a bird really new to Science. Strickland was little aware of the enormous number of new species and new forms, some of them of the most extraordinary character, which have been constantly discovered and described year by year since that period. At the present epoch it must be allowed that, in the two great Northern Regions of the earth's surface, there remains little more to be done in the way of discovery of new species. But in the Oriental, Australian, Ethiopian, and Neotropical Regions, as fast as new localities are visited, new forms of avian life still continue to present themselves. For example, Mr. Whitehead's researches in the highlands of the Philippines, and Mr. Everett's labours in the Natuna Islands alike show that the ornithological riches of the Oriental Region are by no means exhausted. In Australia proper, perhaps, little more in the way of novelty is to be expected, but in the Papuan Subregion the already rich *Ornis* is still receiving most remarkable additions as new areas are explored. Within the past few months two new forms of

Paradise-birds, both referable to new genera*, besides many other very interesting new species, have come to light; and I am told by Mr. De Vis that Sir William MacGregor has discovered a third new Paradise-bird.

As regards Africa, I need only call attention to the collections made under the directions of Mr. H. H. Johnston, C.B., by Mr. Alexander Whyte in Nyasa-land, and described in 'The Ibis' by Capt. Shelley. Our German fellow-workers are also constantly engaged in characterizing new species from both the Eastern and the Western German territories in Tropical Africa. Passing across the Atlantic to South America we might well suppose that the stream of novelties which has flowed from the Neotropical Region abundantly for so many years, was now likely to stop. But the collection recently received by Mr. Salvin from Mr. Baron shows that even in Peru, which has been so fully explored by the collectors of Warsaw, this is not the case. Mr. Salvin tells me that Mr. Baron's recent collection (of which he will shortly write in 'Novitates Zoologicae') contains examples of no fewer than 14 new species. Mr. Garlepp's collections from Bolivia, which are submitted to the experienced scrutiny of Graf von Berlepsch, also often comprise examples of new and remarkable species. There is likewise still much to be done in Tucuman and in the adjoining northern provinces of Argentina, whence Herr Paul Neumann has lately sent a most interesting series of specimens to the Berlin Museum (*cf.* Bull. B. O. C. iii. p. xlv). It is plain, therefore, that we may still look forward for many years to the great pleasure of discovering, describing, and figuring new species in 'The Ibis' and in our 'Bulletin.'

Section II. ORNITHOLOGICAL WORKS IN PROGRESS AND PROMISED.

As regards Ornithological books, there has seldom, if ever, I think, been a time when so many new ones have

* *Loria*, Salvad. (Ibis, 1894, p. 564), and *Lamprothorax*, Meyer, Abhandl. k. zool. Mus. Dresd. iv. no. 2.

been in progress and in preparation. For England alone, besides Lord Lilford's 'Coloured Figures of British Birds,' we have Dr. Sharpe's 'Handbook' in the 'Naturalist's Library,' and Wyatt's 'British Birds'; and Mr. Dresser has now announced the speedy appearance of his long promised Supplement to the 'Birds of Europe.' Two important works, which, however, are making somewhat slower progress — Menzbier's 'Ornithologie du Turkestan' and Pleske's 'Ornithographia Rossica' — are likewise being issued in Russia. To illustrate the Ornis, until recently so little known, of the Hawaiian archipelago, we have two splendidly illustrated works both approaching completion; I need hardly say I refer to Messrs. Wilson and Evans's 'Aves Hawaiienses,' and to Mr. Rothschild's 'Avifauna of Laysan;' both of them productions creditable alike to British science and to British art.

In Monographs the list is perhaps not quite so long as usual, but Dr. Sharpe's 'Paradise-birds,' Mr. Elliot's 'Pittas,' and Mr. Butler's 'Foreign Finches' are alike in process of issue, while Messrs. Sharpe and Wyatt have just brought to a completion their 'Monograph of the Hirundinidæ' and our friend Heer F. E. Blaauw is working hard at an illustrated volume on the Cranes.

I must also not omit to hope for a speedy completion of Messrs. Newton and Gadow's 'Dictionary of Birds,' which, as we must all be aware, when brought to a conclusion, will be of material assistance to the working ornithologist.

Section III. THE GREAT 'CATALOGUE OF BIRDS.'

Since the opening of our last Session the 22nd volume of the 'British Museum Catalogue of Birds,' containing the Game Birds, by Mr. W. R. Ogilvie-Grant, and the 23rd volume, containing the Rails, Cranes, and Bustards, by Dr. Bowdler Sharpe, have been published. From the last Parliamentary Report of the British Museum we learn that vol. xxiv. of this important work will contain the Waders, by Dr. Sharpe; vol. xxv. the Gulls and Petrels, by Mr. H. Saunders and Mr. O. Salvin; vol. xxvi. the Divers, Pelicans, Cor-

morants, and Herons, by Dr. Sharpe; and vol. xxvii. the Geese, Ducks, and the remainder of the Class of Birds, by Count T. Salvadori. Thus, as these naturalists are all, I believe, busily engaged on the compilation of their respective tasks, we may look forward to the completion of this arduous undertaking within a definite period—say, two or three years from the present time.

The point I wish now to impress upon my brother ornithologists is the great importance and advantage of an index volume to close the series. It has been suggested, I am told, that an index of the genera would be sufficient. An index of genera would be, no doubt, most useful—in fact, I have had such an index of the volumes already issued prepared for my own use; and very handy indeed do I find it. But to this should certainly be added a second index to all the specific names referred to in the twenty-seven volumes of the work. Such an addition would no doubt be somewhat bulky, as I find that the average number of pages taken up with the index of each volume is about 22, which multiplied by 27 would make a volume of nearly 600 pages for the final Index:—

Average number of pages of Index in the 23 published	
volumes of B.M. Cat. Birds	22
Total number of pages of Index in the whole 27 volumes	594

But there can be no doubt that such an index would be of surpassing value to the working ornithologist; and as it might be easily compiled from the indexes already published, the labour of making it would not be serious. Still more complete and still more useful would such an index be, if, after the final volume of the Catalogue, an additional volume were prepared in which all the names of species described since 1874 (when the Catalogue was commenced), and not already recorded in the different volumes, were enrolled, with references to each of them. If this additional volume were also indexed in the 'General Index' the result would be a work of reference to the class of Birds much more complete and of far greater general usefulness than the late G. R. Gray's

celebrated 'Hand-list of Birds,' issued some twenty-four years ago, and still used by a large number of ornithologists for purposes of reference.

Section IV. FUTURE EXPLORATIONS SUGGESTED.

In concluding my remarks, I will venture to offer some few words of advice to the Members of the B. O. C., or other ornithologists, who may be seeking for places to which to make future excursions.

Although there is not much left that is new in the Palearctic Region, there is one not far distant part of it of which we as yet know little ornithologically. I allude to the interior of Asiatic Turkey, particularly the Upper Euphrates, where birds are stated by several recent travellers to be abundant. The route to the Persian Gulf, and so up to Bagdad by steamer, is now easy, and the start should be from that quarter in the early spring, when the climate is good. The Euphrates might then be followed to its sources, or so far to the north as convenient, the return home being made by the Mediterranean. An insight would thus be obtained to the ornithology of Mesopotamia, of which as yet nothing, I may say, is known. Many interesting links, no doubt, would be found there between the birds of Persia and those of Syria and Palestine.

An ornithologist who wished to spend his winter in the West Indies could not do better than visit the Island of Margarita, off the coast of Venezuela, which, as a recent traveller informs us, is a healthy place, easy of access, and well provided with birds. It is very desirable to know whether this island, like Curaçao and its satellites (*cf.* *Artert*, Ibis, 1893, p. 289), possesses any traces of West-Indian forms or is purely Venezuelan in character. In either case it would be well worth a collector's visit.

A more adventurous explorer, who did not fear Africa, might be counselled to visit the Upper Senegal River and the elevated land between that and the Upper Niger, over which the *pax Gallica* is now said to prevail. This country

is of easy access by steamer and railway from St. Louis du Sénégal. Of the birds of Senegal we know nothing since the days of Swainson, excepting the collections made for the Maison Verreaux, and a few scattered details; for Dr. Rochebrune's work ('Faune de la Sénégambie') is universally admitted to be utterly untrustworthy.

P. L. S.

BULLETIN

OF THE

BRITISH ORNITHOLOGISTS' CLUB.

No. XXX.

THE nineteenth meeting of the Club was held at the Restaurant Frascati, 32 Oxford Street, on Wednesday, the 24th of October, 1894.

Chairman: HENRY SEEBOHM.

Members present:—W. E. DE WINTON, E. HARGITT, A. P. LOYD, F. MENTEITH OGILVIE, W. R. OGILVIE-GRANT, DIGBY PIGOTT, C.B., COUNT SALVADORI, HENRY SEEBOHM, R. BOWDLER SHARPE, G. E. SHELLEY, W. B. TEGETMEIER, H. T. WHARTON, JOHNSON WILKINSON, C. A. WRIGHT.

Visitors: C. E. FAGAN, C. B. RICKETT.

The CHAIRMAN announced that, owing to domestic bereavement, Dr. Sclater was unable to attend the Meeting, and that his Annual Address to the B.O.C. would be postponed to the next Meeting, in November.

COUNT SALVADORI made some remarks on the Ducks of the genera *Anas* and *Nyroca*, the following being apparently new to science:—

ANAS OUSTALETI, sp. n.

Similis *A. superciliosæ*, sed speculo alari cæruleo-purpureo paullum viridi nitente, tæniâ albâ ante-speculari distinguenda.

Hab. in insulis Mariannis. Typus in Museo Parisiensi.

[October 31st, 1894.]

NYROCA INNOTATA, sp. n.

Similis *N. leucophthalmæ*, sed capitis, colli, pectorisque colore castaneo valdè saturatiore: torque collari fusco nullo, et maculâ mentali albâ deficiente, distinguenda.

Hab. in insulâ Madagascar dictâ. *Typus* in Museo Britannico.

Mr. W. R. OGILVIE-GRANT exhibited a series of specimens of the birds collected by Mr. John Whitehead in the mountains of Northern Luzon. Two species appeared to be undescribed:—

ORIOLOUS ISABELLÆ, sp. n.

♀. Similis *O. albilori*, sed major, loris mentoque flavis, et rostro brunnescenti-nigro distinguendus. Long. tot. 8.8 poll., alæ 4.4, caudæ 3.6 (in *O. albilori* 2.9).

ZOSTERORNIS STRIATUS, sp. n.

Similis *Z. whiteheadi*, sed gastræo toto nigro distincte striato, sicut in genere '*Mixornis*' dicto, distinguenda. Long. tot. 5.5 poll., alæ 2.4, caudæ 2.05.

Dr. R. BOWDLER SHARPE exhibited the type of *Micropus nehrkorni*, W. Blasius (J. f. O. 1890, p. 147), which had been sent by Herr Nehr Korn to Dr. Sclater for identification (cf. *Ibis*, 1894, p. 569). Dr. Sharpe had omitted this species from the list of species of *Micropus* given by him in 'The Ibis' for 1894, p. 422, and was much obliged to Herr Nehr Korn for sending the specimen to England.

On examination *Micropus nehrkorni* proved to be not a Bulbul, but a representative species in Mindanao of *Melaniparus semilarvatus*, Salvad., of Luzon. It must therefore be known as *Melaniparus nehrkorni* (W. Blasius). The resemblance to *Micropus melanoleucus* was very striking, but the longer bill, more prominent rictal bristles, ovate nostril, and feebler feet distinguish the *Micropus*, while the rounded nostril, covered with feathers, and the powerful feet identified *Melaniparus* as a member of the family Paridæ, though aberrant in its general appearance. *M. nehrkorni* differed from *M. semilarvatus* in its narrower white frontal band, white speculum at the base of the primaries, and white under wing-coverts and axillaries.

Mr. SEEBOHM exhibited specimens of *Merula thomassoni* from the mountains of Northern Luzon (cf. Bull. B. O. C. iii. p. li), and pointed out the close affinity of the species to *M. papuensis*, De Vis, from the mountains of S.E. New Guinea.

Dr. BOWDLER SHARPE made some remarks on the species of Birds of Paradise of the genus *Diphyllodes*, of which he recognized the following:—

1. *D. magnifica* (Penn.). N.W. New Guinea (Sorong; Salawati).
2. *D. seleucides*, Less. N.W. New Guinea (Arfak Mts.).
3. *D. chrysoptera*, Gould (*D. jobiensis*, Meyer).
4. *D. septentrionalis*, Meyer. Finisterre Mts.
5. *D. hunsteini*, Meyer. Astrolabe Mts.

The Arfak bird, of which he had recently seen upwards of one hundred examples, was an intermediate form between the pale ochre-winged *D. magnifica* and the golden-winged *D. chrysoptera*. *D. septentrionalis* was barely separable from *D. hunsteini*, but had the deep crimson mantle-patch of *D. chrysoptera*, while the birds from S.E. New Guinea had the mantle-patch of a lighter crimson. *D. hunsteini*, Meyer, with a richer golden-orange tint on the wings, was believed by Dr. Sharpe to be merely a very old and brightly coloured plumage of the ordinary Golden-winged Bird of Paradise from the mountain-ranges of S.E. New Guinea. The large series of skins of *D. seleucides* from the Arfak Mountains showed the increasing richness in coloration of these golden-winged species of *Diphyllodes*, in proportion to their age.

Dr. SHARPE also pointed out that the species of Plover of the genus *Defilippia* from Nyasa Land and the Zambesi region was distinct from *Defilippia crassirostris* of Equatorial Africa. He separated it as

DEFILIPPIA BURROWSII, sp. n.

Similis *D. crassirostri*, sed secundariis purè albis, et capitis nigredine magis extenso, faciliè distinguenda.

Hab. in terrâ Nyasensi.

Dr. SHARPE also made some remarks on the Grebes of the genus *Tachybaptus*, and pointed out that four distinct species had been confounded under the heading of *T. minor*. Of these the African bird had received the "nomen nudum" of *Podiceps capensis* from Bonaparte, which Dr. Sharpe proposed to adopt.

TACHYBAPTUS CAPENSIS, sp. n.

Similis *T. minori*, sed abdomine sericeo-albo, minimè nigro, et colli lateralis colore castaneo usque ad oculum posticum extenso faciliè distinguendus.

Hab. in regione Ethiopicâ totâ.

TACHYBAPTUS ALBIPENNIS, sp. n.

Similis *T. minori*, sed colli lateralis colore castaneo usque ad oculum posticum extenso, secundariis purè albis, rhachidibusque earum quoque albis, distinguendus.

Hab. in subregione Indicâ peninsulari.

Mr. TEGETMEIER exhibited a curious grey variety of the Common Partridge (*Perdix perdix*) and some feathers of an Ostrich (sp. inc.), at present living in the Zoological Society's Gardens.

The next Meeting will be held on Wednesday, the 21st of November.

(Signed)

H. SEEBOHM,
Chairman.

R. BOWDLER SHARPE,
Editor.

HOWARD SAUNDERS,
Sec. & Treas.

BULLETIN

OF THE

BRITISH ORNITHOLOGISTS' CLUB.

No. XXI.

THE twentieth meeting of the Club was held at the Restaurant Frascati, 32 Oxford Street, on Wednesday, the 21st of November, 1894.

Chairman : P. L. SCLATER, F.R.S.

Members present :—E. BIDWELL, F. E. BLAAUW, P. CROWLEY, W. E. DE WINTON, Major A. P. LOYD, Dr. ST. G. MIVART, F.R.S., E. NEALE, F. MENTEITH OGILVIE, W. R. OGILVIE-GRANT, E. C. PEARSON, J. J. PEARSON, T. DIGBY PIGOTT, C.B., HOWARD SAUNDERS (*Treasurer*), W. L. SCLATER, HENRY SEEBOHM, R. BOWDLER SHARPE (*Editor*), W. B. TEGETMEIER, AUBYN TREVOR-BATTYE, H. T. WHARTON, JOHNSON WILKINSON, C. A. WRIGHT.

Visitors : E. A. S. ELLIOT, C. E. FAGAN, H. H. JOHNSTON, C.B., R. I. POCOCK, C. B. RICKETT.

On the motion of Dr. R. BOWDLER SHARPE, it was unanimously Resolved :

“ That the best thanks of the B. O. C. be offered to Mr. J. P. GASSIOT, F.Z.S., for his handsome contribution of £25 towards the expenses of the production of Vol. II. of the ‘ Bulletin of the British Ornithologists’ Club,’ and that a complete copy of the three volumes of the ‘ Bulletin ’ be presented to him.”

The Chairman read his Annual Address to the Club.

[November 30th, 1894.]

Mr. SCLATER exhibited eggs of two species of Macaw, *Ara militaris* and *A. ararauna*, which had been laid in the aviaries of Mr. H. H. Sharland, F.Z.S., at La Fontaine, Tours, the former in June 1890 and the latter in July 1894. They were pure white and of the usual glossy texture of other eggs of the Psittacidae.

Mr. SCLATER exhibited a skin of Wilson's Phalarope (*Phalaropus wilsoni*), belonging to a collection of skins which had been recently received from the Falkland Islands by the University College Museum, Dundee, and had been kindly submitted to him for examination by Prof. d'Arcy Thompson. This was the first record of the occurrence of this bird in the Falkland Islands, although it had been met with by Durnford in 1876 as far south as the Chupat Valley in Patagonia (Scl. & Huds. Arg. Orn. ii. p. 281), and was also known to occur in Chili.

Mr. J. J. PEARSON exhibited an egg-blowing apparatus, with which he had obtained the best results during his recent visit to Iceland.

Dr. A. B. MEYER, of Dresden, sent the following descriptions of a new Parrot and a new Bird of Paradise, which he intended to describe in detail and to figure elsewhere:—

MICROGLOSSUS SALVADORI, sp. n.

Fœm.? Formâ *M. aterrimi* (Gm.), sed primulaceo-flavus: subtiùs angustè, suprâ latè nigro fasciatus: alis et caudâ reliquâ plus minusve nigro irroratis: capite cristâque viridi-atris, irregulariter fasciatim pallidissimè flavo signatis et maculatis: maxilla fusca, apice pallido, mandibulâ albescenti: pedibus nigris. Long. tot. c. 550 millim., al. 370, caud. 275, crist. 130, rostr. culm. c. 75, max. alt. 40, mand. alt. 36, max. lat. ad bas. 26, mand. lat. ad bas. 36, tars. 20.

Hab. Nova Guinea, in montibus Arfak.

PAROTIA CAROLÆ, sp. n.

Mus. Similis *P. sexpeuni* (Bodd.), sed multo minor et ab eâ

præterea faciliè distinguenda pilco regioneque periophthalmicâ nitidè saturatè ochraceo-aureis, laterum plumis elongatis, albis, internis castaneis vel nigris, et gulæ plumis piliformibus nitidè ochraceis, etc. Long. tot. c. 270 millim., al. 150, caud. 75, capitis rhachid. vexill. 110 (in *P. seapenni* 170), rostr. culm. 19, tars. 46.

Hab. Nova Guinea, in montibus ad flumen Amberno.

Mr. HENRY SEEBOHM exhibited skins of two new species of birds from the interior of Formosa, collected by Mr. Holst. The first was a Tit of the subgenus *Machlolophus*, which he proposed to call

PARUS HOLSTI, sp. n.

Pileo cristato tergoque viridescenti-nigris: macula nuchali alba: gastræo toto lætissimè flavo.

RALLINA FORMOSANA, sp. n.

Similis, ut videtur, *R. sepiario*, Stegn., sed multò minor: pileo dorso concolori (an juv.?), *R. euryzonoidi* juv. similis, sed valdè saturator.

A full description of these species will appear in 'The Ibis.'

Dr. BOWDLER SHARPE stated that he had since discovered that the Plover described by him as *Defilippia burrowsii* (above, p. iv) was the *Vanellus leucopterus* of Reichenow (J. f. O. 1889, p. 265), and the species must therefore be known as *Defilippia leucoptera* (Reichen.).

Mr. A. TREVOR-BATTYE, who had landed in England on the previous evening, received a warm welcome from his brother members. He gave an interesting account of his explorations in the Island of Kolguev and his subsequent journey to the Petchora and Archangel.

The next Meeting will take place on Wednesday, the 19th

of December, when Mr. TREVOR-BATTYE will give an account of the ornithology of Kolguev Island.

(Signed)

P. L. SCLATER,	R. BOWDLER SHARPE,	HOWARD SAUNDERS,
<i>Chairman.</i>	<i>Editor.</i>	<i>Sec. & Treas.</i>

BULLETIN

OF THE

BRITISH ORNITHOLOGISTS' CLUB.

No. XXII.

THE twenty-first meeting of the Club was held at the Restaurant Frascati, 32 Oxford Street, on Wednesday, the 19th of December, 1894.

Chairman: P. L. SCLATER, F.R.S.

Members present:—G. BARRETT-HAMILTON, E. BIDWELL, J. L. BONHOTE, W. E. DE WINTON, A. H. EVANS, JOHN GERRARD, W. GRAHAM, G. H. CATON HAIGH, E. HARTERT, J. E. HARTING, W. H. HUDSON, E. G. B. MEADE-WALDO, F. MENTEITH OGILVIE, C. E. PEARSON, H. J. PEARSON, HOWARD SAUNDERS (*Treasurer*), R. BOWDLER SHARPE (*Editor*), A. B. R. TREVOR-BATTYE, C. A. WRIGHT, JOHN YOUNG.

Visitors: GRAHAM KERR, D. F. MACKENZIE, ARNOLD PIKE, T. M. PIKE, HUGH L. POPHAM, H. STEVENS, Capt. CAYLEY WEBSTER.

Dr. R. BOWDLER SHARPE exhibited a specimen of a bird new to the Fauna of Great Britain. This was an example of the Sub-alpine Warbler (*Sylvia subalpina*), which had been forwarded to him for exhibition by Mr. J. S. Elliott, of Dudley, who had shot it himself on the island of St. Kilda on the 13th of June, 1894, after a heavy gale from the south-west.

Mr. J. E. HARTING exhibited a specimen of the Yellow-

[December 29th, 1894.]

browed Warbler (*Phylloscopus superciliosus*), shot near Beverley by Mr. Swailes of that place.

Mr. W. E. DE WINTON exhibited a pair of Kestrels which he had shot last summer in the act of capturing young Pheasants. He regarded this as an isolated instance, as, after the shooting of the pair in question, no more young birds were taken, although Kestrels were numerous in the neighbourhood.

Mr. A. TREVOR-BATTYE made some remarks on the natural history of Kolguev Island.

The Hon. WALTER ROTHSCHILD communicated the following description of a new genus and species of bird from New Zealand, which he proposed to call

“TRAVERSIA, gen. nov. *Xenicidarum*.

“Differs in several important points both from *Xenicus* and *Acanthidositta*. Bill much larger and stouter, very little shorter, if at all, than the tarsus; the latter about as long as middle toe without claw, or the hind toe and claw, while in *Xenicus* and *Acanthidositta* it is about twice as long as the hind toe. The principal difference, however, is the weak character of the wing, which points to flightlessness, as does also the very soft and loose character of the entire plumage, and the very Ralline aspect of the bird. There are only 10 tail-feathers, and the scutellation of the tarsus is like that of *Xenicus*. These two points determine its position in the *Xenicidae* at once (*cf.* Selater, Cat. B. xiv. p. 450). The type is

“TRAVERSIA LYALLI, sp. nov.

“*Male*. Above dark brownish olive-yellow, each feather with a brownish-black border. A narrow distinct yellow superciliary line. Wings and tail umber-brown, the inner webs darker; wing-coverts like back. Chin, throat, and breast chrome-yellow, each feather slightly edged with

greyish brown. Flanks, abdomen, and vent pale brown, centre of feathers paler.

"*Female*. Upper surface umber-brown, each feather bordered with very dark brown; wings and tail similar. Under surface buffy grey, the feathers edged with pale brown.

"Total length about 4 inches, culmen 0·6, wing 1·8 to 1·9, tail 0·8, but much concealed; tarsus 0·75, middle toe 0·65, hind toe without claw 0·5.

"*Habitat*. Stephens Island, New Zealand. Discovered by Mr. D. Lyall, lighthouse-keeper, and sent to me by Mr. Henry H. Travers."

Mr. ROTHSCHILD also sent for exhibition one of the two typical specimens of *Craspedophora mantoui*, Oust. He wished to call attention to the fact that it agrees in the minutest details with Mr. J. Büttikofer's recently described *C. bruyni*, and that there could be no doubt of the two species being identical. *C. mantoui* was admirably figured by Keulemans in the 'Nouvelles Archives du Muséum d'Histoire Naturelle,' Paris (vol. iv. pl. 15).

Dr. A. B. MEYER sent a diagnosis, accompanied by a coloured sketch, of a remarkable new genus and species of Bird of Paradise, which would be described later on by him in detail and figured elsewhere:—

PTERIDOPHORA, gen. nov. Paradiseidarum.

(πτερίς = filix, φέρειν = ferre.)

Capite utrinque scapo paradoxo, valde elongato, filicis flabelli uniseriati instar transformato, lobis plurimis, corio similibus, munito. Rostro turdino, recto, angusto: alis brevibus, remige primo dimidiam partem secundi superante, tertio, quarto, quinto, sexto longioribus, quarto longissimo: cauda mediocri, æquali: pedibus mediocribus. Statura minore quam in genere *Lophorhina*.

PTERIDOPHORA ALBERTI, sp. n.

Mas. Supra velutino-nigra, plus minusve olivaceo-nitens, plumis sincipitis elongatis, utrinque productis: capite lateribus supra oculos scapo, corpore fere duplo longiore, lobis 37-38 ornato, supra colore floris myosotidis, subtus

fusciscentibus, singulis in margine postico tenuiter nigro-ciliatis : uropygio nigro-cinereo : alis caudaque nigris, remigibus rectricibusque basin versus pallide ferrugineis : gula velutino-nigro guttulata : subtus ochraceo-flava : rostro nigro : pedibus fuscis. Long. tot. c. 220 millim., al. 123, caud. 90, rostri culm. 22, tarsi 30, capitis scapi 350, lobi max. long. 9, lat. 7.

Hab. Nova Guinea, in montibus ad flumen 'Amberno.'

Dr. BOWDLER SHARPE made some remarks upon this extraordinary species, which constituted the fourth new form of Paradise-bird described within the last month; the three others being *Parotia carolæ* of Meyer (Bull. B. O. C. anteà, p. vi), *Craspedophora bruijini*, sp. n., and *Ianthothorax benzbachi*, gen. et sp. n., described by Dr. Büttikofer (Notes Leyden Mus., Dec. 1894).

Dr. Sharpe gave the following list of the genera and species of the *Paradiseidæ* and *Ptilonorhynchidæ* known up to the present day :—

1. *Ptilorhis paradisea*, Swains. S. & C. Australia.
2. — *victoriæ*, Gould. N.E. Australia.
3. *Craspedophora magnifica* (V.). N.W. New Guinea.
4. — *intercedens*, Sharpe. S.E. New Guinea.
5. — *mantoui*, Oust. (*C. bruijini*, Büttik.). N.W. New Guinea.
6. *Ianthothorax benzbachi*, Büttik. N.W. Guinea.
7. *Paryphephorus duivenbodii* (Meyer). N.W. New Guinea.
8. *Seleucides nigricans* (Shaw). New Guinea.
9. *Drepanornis albertisi*, Scl. N.W. New Guinea.
10. — *cervinicauda*, Scl. S.E. New Guinea.
11. — *geisleri*, Meyer. E. New Guinea.
12. *Drepananax bruijini* (Oust.). N. New Guinea.
13. *Epimachus speciosus* (Bodd.). N.W. New Guinea.
14. — *elliotti*, Ward. Hab. ign.
15. — *meyeri*, Finsch. S.E. New Guinea.
16. *Astrapia nigra* (Gm.). N.W. New Guinea.
17. *Astrarchia stephaniae*, Finsch. S.E. New Guinea.
18. *Paradigalla carunculata*, Less. N.W. New Guinea.

19. *Trichoparadisea gulielmi* (Cab.). E. New Guinea.
20. *Paradisornis rudolphi*, Finsch & Meyer. S.E. New Guinea.
21. *Paradisea apoda*, L. Aru Islands.
22. — *novæ-guinæ*, D'Albert. & Salvad. S. New Guinea.
23. — *finschi*, Meyer. E. New Guinea.
24. — *augustæ-victoriæ*, Cab. E. New Guinea.
25. — *marix*, Reichen. E. New Guinea.
26. — *minor*, Shaw. N.W. New Guinea, Mysol.
27. — *raggiana*, Schl. S.E. New Guinea.
28. — *decora*, Salv. & Godm. D'Entrecasteaux Isl.
29. *Uranornis rubra* (Lacép.). Waigiou, Batanta.
30. *Cicinnurus regius* (L.). New Guinea, Aru Isl.
31. *Rhipidornis gulielmi-tertii* (Musschenbr.). N.W. New Guinea.
32. *Diphyllodes seleucides*, Less. N.W. New Guinea.
33. — *magnifica* (Penn.). N.W. New Guinea.
34. — *chrysoptera*, Gould. Jobi Isl.
35. — *hunsteini*, Meyer (*D. septentrionalis*, Meyer). S.E. New Guinea.
36. *Schlegelia respublica* (Bp.). Waigiou, Batanta.
37. *Parotia searpennis* (Bodd.). N.W. New Guinea.
38. — *lawesi*, Ramsay. S.E. New Guinea.
39. — *carolæ*, Meyer. N.W. New Guinea.
40. *Semioptera wallacii* (Gray). Batchian.
41. — *halmaheræ*, Salvad. Halmahéra.
42. *Lophorhina superba* (Penn.). N.W. New Guinea.
43. — *minor*, Ramsay. S.E. New Guinea.
44. *Lamprothorax wilhelminæ*, Meyer. N.W. New Guinea.
45. *Phonygama keraudreni* (Less. & Garn.). N.W. & S.E. New Guinea, Aru Isl.
46. — *gouldi* (Gray). N.E. Australia.
47. — *hunsteini*, Sharpe (*P. thomsoni*, Tristr.). Normanby Isl., Goodenough Isl.
48. — *purpureo-violacea*, Meyer. S.E. New Guinea.
49. *Manucodia chalybeata* (Penn.). New Guinea, Mysol.
50. — *jobiensis*, Salvad. Jobi Isl.
51. — *rubiensis*, Meyer. N.W. New Guinea.

52. *Manucodia atra* (Less.). New Guinea, Mysol, Waigiou,
Batanta.
53. *Eucorax comrii* (Scl.). D'Entrecasteaux Isl.
54. *Lycocorax pyrrhopterus* (Forst.). Halmahéra.
55. — *obiensis*, Bernst. Obi Isl.
56. — *morotensis*, Bernst. Morotai Isl.
57. *Xanthomelus aureus* (L.). N.W. New Guinea.
58. — *ardens*, D'Albert. & Salvad. S. New Guinea.
59. *Prionodura newtoniana*, De Vis. Queensland.
60. *Cnemophilus macgregorii*, De Vis. S.E. New Guinea.
61. — *mariae*, De Vis. S.E. New Guinea.
62. *Loria loriae*, Salvad. S.E. New Guinea.
63. *Amblyornis inornata* (Schl.). N.W. New Guinea.
64. *Xanthochlamys subalaris* (Sharpe). S.E. New Guinea.
65. — *musgravianus* (Goodw.). S.E. New Guinea.
66. *Sericulus melinus* (Lath.). E. Australia.
67. *Ptilonorhynchus violaceus* (V.). E. Australia.
68. *Scænopæetes denti-rostris* (Ramsay). Queensland.
69. *Ælurædus melanotis* (Gray). Aru Isl.
70. — *arfakianus*, Meyer. N.W. New Guinea.
71. — *melanocephalus*, Ramsay. S.E. New Guinea.
72. — *maculosus*, Ramsay. Queensland.
73. — *buccoides* (Temm.). New Guinea, Waigiou,
Batanta.
74. — *stonii*, Sharpe. S.E. New Guinea.
75. — *geislerorum*, Meyer. E. New Guinea.
76. — *viridis* (Lath.). Australia.
77. *Chlamydodera maculata* (Gould). E. & S. Australia.
78. — *occipitalis*, Gould.
79. — *guttata*, Gould. Int. Australia.
80. — *nuchalis* (J. & S.). N. Australia.
81. — *orientalis*, Gould. Queensland.
82. — *cerviniventris*. N.E. Australia, S.E. New Guinea.

Two new genera were proposed in the above list of *Paradiseidæ*, and one in the *Ptilonorhynchidæ*, for which the following characters were given :—

DREPANANAX, gen. n.

Genus simile '*Drepanornis*' dicto, sed chlamyde laterali præpectoralis diversâ et fasciis pectoralibus absentibus distinguendum.

Typus: *D. bruigni* (Oust.).

EUCORAX, gen. n.

Genus simile generi '*Manucodia*' dicto, sed pilei plumis lateralibus recurvatis et rectricibus medianis recurvatis distinguendum.

Typus: *E. comrii* (Sclater).

XANTHOCHLAMYS, gen. n.

Genus simile generi '*Amblyornis*' dicto, sed cristâ maximâ ornatâ distinguendum.

Typus: *X. subalaris* (Sharpe).

Mr. OSBERT SALVIN, F.R.S., sent some photographs of a specimen of an Albatros in the Peterhead Museum, which had been forwarded to him by Mr. J. A. Harvie-Brown. Mr. Salvin identified the species as *Diomedea culminata*.

The CHAIRMAN exhibited a skin of *Falco punicus*, which had been captured at sea in the Mediterranean, south of Crete, in June last, by Mr. Arthur Sclater, on his passage home from Ceylon, and brought alive to England.

Mr. SCLATER called attention to the recently published work on the birds of the Balkan States, Bulgaria, Eastern Roumelia, and the Dobrudscha ('Materialen zu einer Ornithologia Balkanica'), by Othmar Reiser, Custos of the Landes-Museum in Sarajevo, which contained a mass of information on the ornithology of one of the least-known portions of Europe, and would be of special interest to students of the Palæarctic Ornithology. Mr. Sclater had just received a letter from the author, who stated that he had found the Snow-Finch (*Montifringilla nivalis*) nesting on some of the highest mountains in Greece (Riona, 2500 metres, and the Korax).

The next Meeting will take place on Wednesday, the 16th of January, 1895.

(Signed)

P. L. SCLATER,	R. BOWDLER SHARPE,	HOWARD SAUNDERS,
<i>Chairman.</i>	<i>Editor.</i>	<i>Sec. & Treas.</i>

BULLETIN

OF THE

BRITISH ORNITHOLOGISTS' CLUB.

No. XXIII.

THE twenty-second meeting of the Club was held at the Restaurant Frascati, 32 Oxford Street, on Wednesday, the 16th of January, 1895.

Chairman : P. L. SCLATER, F.R.S.

Members present :—E. BIDWELL, W. E. DE WINTON, E. HARGITT, ST. GEORGE MIVART, F.R.S., E. G. B. MEADE-WALDO, F. MENTEITH OGILVIE, C. E. PEARSON, J. H. PEARSON, F. PENROSE, T. DIGBY PIGOTT, C.B., HOWARD SAUNDERS (*Treasurer*), R. BOWDLER SHARPE (*Editor*), H. SEEBOHM, H. H. SLATER, W. B. TEGETMEIER, C. A. WRIGHT.

Visitors : Col. ADAMSON, J. B. BILDERDECK, C. POOLE, C. B. RICKETT, F. C. SELOUS.

Dr. A. B. MEYER sent the following description of the hitherto unknown male of *Amblyornis inornata* (Schl.), from Karoon, west of the Arfak Mountains :—

“*Mas.* Supra colore brunneo saturatiore quam femina subterque ferrugineo tinctus, subalaribus ferrugineis : alis caudaque subter suspectu quodam flavo-olivaceis : scapis flavescentibus : capitis crista sincipiti tantummodo inserta, transversa, flabelliformi, longissima, 80 millim. : colore quo *Amblyornis subalaris*, Sharpe, sed plumis lateralibus marginibus brunneis nec nigris. Long. al. 134 millim., rostri culm. 25, caud. 98.

“Dr. Sharpe recently established (*vide antea* p. xv) the genus *Xanthochlamys* for the two known crested species of

[January 29th, 1895.]

Amblyornis, assuming that the male of *A. inornata* (Schl.) was without a crest, as, indeed, has been generally believed to be the case, though Dr. Sharpe himself once rightly doubted this fact. The specimen before me, having just reached the Dresden Museum, leaves no doubt that it really is the male of *A. inornata*, of which it has happened that only young males or adult ones not in nuptial dress and females have been known since the year 1871, when it was first described, a fate which it shared to a certain degree with *Drepananax bruijni* (Oust.). The genus *Xanthochlamys*, therefore, must again give way to *Amblyornis*."

Dr. SHARPE regretted that he had instituted a new generic term for the Crested Gardener-Birds of South-eastern New Guinea, but pleaded that the number of specimens of *Amblyornis inornata* which had been received by European Museums during the last twenty-three years—none of which had shown the least trace of a crest—had warranted him in believing that his genus *Xanthochlamys* was well founded.

Mr. W. R. OGILVIE-GRANT communicated a description of two new species of birds from the Philippine Islands, which he proposed to characterize as follows:—

CALLÆOPS, gen. n.

Genus simile generi '*Arses*' dicto, carunculam ophthalmicam exhibens, sed cristâ longâ lanceolatâ, caudâ cuneatâ et pedibus debilibus distinguendum.

Typus est

CALLÆOPS PERIOPHTHALMICA, sp. n.

Omnino nigra: pectore mediano abdomineque albis: subcaudalibus et axillaribus albo marginatis. Long. tot. 8.5 poll., alæ 3.5, caudæ 4.5, tarsi 0.6.

Hab. in insulâ Philippinensi 'Luzon' dictâ.

CINNYRIS EXCELLENS, sp. n.

Similis *C. guimarascensi*, Steere, sed fronte tantum chalybeo-
viridi, vertice nuchâque olivaceis, dorso aurantiaco,

hypochondriis olivaceo-griseis : plagâ pectorali medianâ scarlatinâ distinguenda. Long. tot. 4·0 poll., alæ 1·9, caudæ 1·2, tarsi 0·55.

Hab. in parte meridionali insulæ Philippinensis 'Luzon' dictæ.

Mr. HENRY SEEBOHM called attention to the existence of two races of the Ground-Thrush, which had hitherto been united under the name of *Geocichla sibirica*. The two forms were easily distinguishable, and should be called *Geocichla sibirica* (Pall.) and *G. davisoni* (Hume).

Mr. W. B. TEGETMEIER exhibited the skin of a *Phasianus torquatus* from Samoa.

Dr. BOWDLER SHARPE made some remarks on Canon Tristram's paper "On the Use and Abuse of Generic Terms" ('Ibis,' 1895, pp. 130-133). A discussion followed, in which Dr. P. L. Sclater, Dr. St. George Mivart, Mr. Howard Saunders, Mr. Henry Seebohm, and Mr. H. J. Pearson took part.

Mr. HOWARD SAUNDERS proposed for the smaller Noddy Terns the new generic term of

MICRANOUS, gen. n.

Genus simile generi '*Anous*' dicto, sed rostro longiore et tenuiore, et rectrice tertiâ externâ utrinque longissimâ distinguendum.

Typus est *Micranous tenuirostris* (Temm.).

Mr. SCLATER exhibited a pair of skins of Darwin's Tinamou (*Nothura darwini*) from Patagonia (cf. Arg. Orn. ii. p. 213, pl. xx.), recently received from Prof. Dr. Carlos Berg, Director of the National Museum of Buenos Ayres, and pointed out the discrepancy of the size of the sexes in this as in other Tinamous, the male being considerably smaller than the female.

The EDITOR desired to apologize to Mr. Osbert Salvin, F.R.S., for a regrettable *lapsus calami* which occurred in the last number of the 'Bulletin.' The name of the Albatros mentioned by him (*anteà*, p. xv) should have been *Diomedea melanophrys* and not *D. culminata* !

The next meeting will take place on Wednesday, the 20th of February, 1895.

(Signed)

P. L. SCLATER,	R. BOWDLER SHARPE,	HOWARD SAUNDERS,
<i>Chairman.</i>	<i>Editor.</i>	<i>Sec. & Treas.</i>

BULLETIN

OF THE

BRITISH ORNITHOLOGISTS' CLUB.

No. XXIV.

THE twenty-third meeting of the Club was held at the Restaurant Frascati, 32 Oxford Street, on Wednesday, the 20th of February, 1895.

Chairman: ST. GEORGE MIVART, F.R.S.

Members present:—E. BIDWELL, W. E. DE WINTON, W. GRAHAM, EDWARD HARGITT, ERNST HARTERT, W. OGILVIE-GRANT, T. PARKIN, C. E. PEARSON, J. H. PEARSON, HOWARD SAUNDERS (*Treasurer*), R. BOWDLER SHARPE (*Editor*), JOHNSON WILKINSON, JOHN YOUNG.

Visitors: J. H. BIDWELL, C. B. RICKETT, F. C. SELOUS, H. STEVENS.

Dr. A. B. MEYER sent for exhibition plates of the remarkable Birds of Paradise, *Pteridophora alberti* and *Parotia carolæ*, recently described by him.

The Hon. WALTER ROTHSCHILD sent for exhibition the second specimen known of *Pteridophora alberti*, in order that the members of the Club might have an opportunity of examining this singular bird.

Mr. ROTHSCHILD likewise sent a fine collection of Birds of Paradise of different genera:—including an adult male of *Astrarchia stephaniae*; a perfect skin of *Rhipidornis guilielmiterti*; the three species of *Parotia*, viz. *P. serpennis*, *P.*

[March 2nd, 1895.]

lauesi, and *P. carolæ*; a specimen of *Amblyornis inornata* with a yellow crest; and a fine series of *Drepanornis bruijni*, showing every stage of plumage of the male, from his first dress—when he resembles the female—up to the complete and decorated plumage of the adult.

Mr. HARTERT, who exhibited these specimens on behalf of Mr. Rothschild, made some remarks on the series.

A special vote of thanks to Mr. Rothschild was passed.

Mr. OGILVIE-GRANT exhibited a nest containing six eggs, believed to be those of the Blackcap (*Sylvia atricapilla*), which had been taken by Dr. John A. Norton in Somersetshire on the 15th May, 1894, and lent for exhibition. The eggs were of a very peculiar type, the ground-colour being pure white; towards the larger end especially, they were spotted and blotched with reddish, and there were also present some underlying clouds of pale lilac. The eggs were, in fact, very similar to some of the clutches in the National Collection laid by the Nuthatch (*Sitta cæsia*), but Dr. Norton, who *saw the old bird*, felt perfectly certain that if it was not a Blackcap, which he believed it to be, it could only be a Garden-Warbler (*Sylvia hortensis*).

Mr. OGILVIE-GRANT also exhibited the male and female of a new species of *Zosterops* collected by Mr. J. Whitehead in South Luzon.

ZOSTEROPS LUZONICA, sp. n.

Most nearly allied to *Z. nigrorum*, from Negros, but distinguished by having no black spot in front of the eye, the upper parts brighter olive, and the yellow on the throat and middle of the underparts more golden with no greenish tinge. Total length 3·8 inches, wing 1·8, tail 1·4, tarsus 0·6.

The name of the new genus of Flycatchers described in the last number of the 'Bulletin,' p. xviii, should stand as *Callaeops*, not *Callæops* as printed there.

Mr. OGILVIE-GRANT then exhibited the skulls of two Wood-Partridges, *Arboricola javanica* and *Tropicoperdix charltoni*, pointing out the extremely peculiar supra-orbital chain of bones characteristic of the former species and other members of the genus, but entirely absent in the latter, as well as in the allied form *T. chloropus*. Mr. W. T. Blanford had called his attention to a MS. note of a specimen of *T. chloropus* in the British Museum, from which it was clear that this latter peculiarity had long ago been observed by Mr. J. Wood-Mason, who first pointed out the supra-orbital chain of bones in *Arboricola*; but the statement respecting the absence of this chain of bones in *Tropicoperdix* was never published, and was quite lost sight of.

Under these circumstances it was thought necessary to separate *T. charltoni* and *T. chloropus* from the genus *Arboricola* (in which they had generally been included), and to place them in the genus *Tropicoperdix*, already proposed by Blyth; the differences in the skull being supplemented by certain external characters, such as the different style of plumage and the peculiar *snow-white* downy patches situated on each side of the body under the wing.

Dr. BOWDLER SHARPE remarked that in the 'Sarawak Gazette' of last January, Mr. E. Bartlett, the Curator of the Museum at Sarawak, had recorded the occurrence, for the first time in Borneo, of the Shoveler Duck (*Spatula clypeata*) and of the Sand-Martin (*Cotile riparia*). Dr. Sharpe stated that he should have expected the latter bird to have been the Chinese species, *Cotile sinensis*.

Mr. W. E. DE WINTON exhibited some interesting specimens of Willow-Grouse and Ptarmigan, selected from a large collection of these birds sent from St. Petersburg.

Mr. T. PARKIN exhibited a skin of a very rare species of Petrel, identified by Mr. Osbert Salvin as *Æstrelata incerta* of Schlegel. Mr. Parkin shot the bird during a calm, on

his recent voyage to the South Atlantic, in lat. $39^{\circ} 51'$ S.,
long. $8^{\circ} 49'$ E.

The next Meeting of the Club will be held on Wednesday,
the 20th of March, at the Restaurant Frascati, 32 Oxford
Street, W.

(Signed)

ST. G. MIVART,	R. BOWDLER SHARPE,	HOWARD SAUNDERS,
<i>Chairman.</i>	<i>Editor.</i>	<i>Sec. & Treas.</i>

BULLETIN

OF THE

BRITISH ORNITHOLOGISTS' CLUB.

No. XXV.

THE twenty-fourth meeting of the Club was held at the Restaurant Frascati, 32 Oxford Street, on Wednesday, the 20th of March, 1895.

Chairman: HOWARD SAUNDERS.

Members present:—E. BIDWELL, J. L. BONHOTE, W. E. DE WINTON, ERNST HARTERT, W. R. OGILVIE-GRANT, H. J. PEARSON, FRANK PENROSE, R. BOWDLER SHARPE (*Editor*), G. E. SHELLEY, C. A. WRIGHT.

Visitors: C. E. FAGAN, FREDERICK GILLETT, C. B. RICKETT.

THE CHAIRMAN read extracts of letters received from Mr. P. L. SCLATER, relative to birds observed on his excursion up the Nile. It was remarked that the Egyptian Kite carried its legs straight out under the base of the tail.

Mr. HOWARD SAUNDERS made some remarks upon the Skimmers (*Rhynchopinæ*), with special reference to the species found in America. After studying the specimens in the collection of the Natural History Museum, he found three forms which he considered to be specifically distinct. Of these, *Rhynchops nigra* has a nearly white tail, a broad pure white alar band, conspicuously white parapteral feathers, and white under wing-coverts; it inhabits the temperate and tropical east coast of North America. *R. melanura* has

[March 30th, 1895.]

dark brown rectrices, with very narrow pale borders to the outer webs, a slight alar band of dull white, shows no white on the parapteral feathers, and has smoke-coloured under wing-coverts; it inhabits the great rivers of South America which drain from the Andes (ascending to the cataracts), and also the Pacific coasts of Chile, Peru, and Ecuador. On the coast of South Brazil and Argentina, ascending the Paraná and Paraguay to their head-waters, is found a species which chiefly resembles the northern *R. nigra*, but differs from it in having a smaller alar band, and the rectrices chiefly brown, with broad white edges to the outer webs. This he proposed to call

RHYNCHOPS INTERCEDENS, sp. n.

♂. Similis *R. nigra*, sed fascia alari alba angustiore, et rectricibus præcipuè brunneis, latè albo marginatis distinguenda. Long. tot. 18 poll., alæ 15.25.

The Hon. WALTER ROTHSCHILD sent for inspection a new species of Bower-bird, which he characterized as follows:—

ÆLURÆDUS JOBIENSIS, sp. nov.

This species is nearest to *Æ. melanocephalus*, Ramsay, from British New Guinea, but shows sufficient differences to justify its separation. The head is black, uniformly spotted with buffish yellow, and does not show the black band on the sides of the occiput, so conspicuous in *Æ. melanocephalus*. Upper neck and back brownish buff, with black margins. Ear-coverts consisting of the large patch of bristly feathers found in its three nearest allies, but this patch passes straight into the black of the throat, without any marked area of pale feathers surrounding it, as in *Æ. melanotis*, *Æ. melanocephalus*, and *Æ. arfakianus*. The pale spots on the tips of the wing-coverts not very distinct, and of a dusky buff colour. Throat, breast, and uppermost part of abdomen black, with a small central buff spot in each feather, while in *Æ. melanotis* (from the Aru Islands) and *Æ. melanocephalus* these feathers are buff or whitish, with narrow black borders. The breast is much greener in *Æ. arfakianus* from Mt. Arfak. Lower

abdomen and under tail-coverts buff with dusky margins, shaded here and there with green. In all other respects most similar to *Æ. melanocephalus*, but the feathers on the sides of the neck just behind the ear-coverts are almost uniform buff, having nearly lost their dark margins. Culmen 1.5 inch, wing 6.5, tail 5.4, tarsus 1.65.

Hab. Island of Jobi, New Guinea, where it was procured by the hunters of the late Mr. Bruijn. Type in Rothschild Museum.

Mr. OGILVIE-GRANT exhibited skins of some rare Francolins collected at Nassa, on the south-eastern shore of the Victoria Nyanza. One of these was *Pternistes rufopictus*, Reichen., a remarkably handsome species, belonging to the bare-throated group of Francolins. A second species was new to science, and he proposed to call it

FRANCOLINUS HUBBARDI, sp. n.

♂. Similis *F. coqui*, Smith, sed gastræo toto concolore, pallidè fulvo, minimè nigro transfasciato.

♀. Præpectore ferè griseo, minimè rufescente distinguenda. Long. tot. 10 poll., alæ 5.6, caudæ 2.6, tarsi 1.6.

Mr. OGILVIE-GRANT also described a new species of *Rhizothera* in the British Museum, as

RHIZOTHERA DULITENSIS, sp. n.

♂. Similis *R. longirostri*, sed præpectore et pectore totis griseis, gastræo reliquo albicante: pedibus schistaceis. Long. tot. 13 poll., alæ 7.7, caudæ 3, tarsi 2.25.

♀ ad. Similis *R. longirostri* ♀, sed tectricibus alarum ferè saturatè brunneis, maculis fulvescentibus paucioribus distinguenda.

Hab. Mt. Dulit, Sarawak, 4000 feet (*C. Hose*).

The describer pointed out that the true *R. longirostris* is also found in Borneo, as examples have been obtained by Mr. Alfred Everett at Marup and Busan in Sarawak. These specimens are identical with others from the Malay Peninsula and Sumatra, and it is evident that *R. dulitensis* is a mountain-form of *R. longirostris*.

Capt. G. E. SHELLEY called attention to the fact that *Crithagra rendalli* of Tristram, recently described in the 'Ibis,' was, in all probability, the same as *C. crassirostris* of Peters, described from Mozambique. Peters published only a short and somewhat vague description of the latter species; but, while agreeing with Dr. Bowdler Sharpe that *C. mosambica*, described by Peters at the same time, was referable to *C. ictera*, Capt. Shelley thought it hardly likely that he would have described the latter species twice over in the same paper. A comparison of the types was desirable, and the attention of Dr. Reichenow was called to this suggestion.

Mr. W. E. DE WINTON exhibited some very large specimens of the Common Guillemot (*Uria troile*) which had been obtained off the Yorkshire coast during the recent severe weather, and Mr. OGILVIE-GRANT also drew attention to a singularly large individual procured near Cromarty, N.B.

Mr. H. J. PEARSON brought for exhibition some clutches of the eggs of the Harlequin Duck (*Cosmonetta*) and Long-tailed Duck (*Harelda glacialis*), and the Red-necked Phalarope (*Phalaropus hyperboreus*), procured by him during the past summer in Iceland. The eggs of the Ducks were beautifully arranged on the down; a method of exhibition much admired by the Members present.

Mr. F. GILLETT made some remarks on his recent travels through Somali-land to the Galla country, when he accompanied Dr. Donaldson Smith's expedition.

Dr. BOWDLER SHARPE announced that the first collections from Dr. Donaldson Smith's expedition had just arrived in this country, and that several of the species of birds appeared to be new to science. Among them were the following:—

COSSYPHA DONALDSONI, sp. n.

C. similis C. subrufescenti, Bocage, sed saturatio schistaceus, et rectricibus externis concoloribus, haud schistaceo marginatis distinguenda. Long. tot. 6·8 poll., alæ 3·1.

DRYODROMAS SMITHI, sp. n.

D. similis D. rufifronti (Rüpp.), sed rectricum externorum pogonio externo omnino albo distinguenda. Long. tot. 4·8 poll., alæ 1·8.

CISTICOLA DODSONI, sp. n.

C. similis C. subruficapillæ, sed pileo castaneo concolore, et aspectu externo remigum minimè rufescente distinguenda. Long. tot. 3·4 poll., alæ 1·7.

MIRAFRA GILLETTI, sp. n.

M. similis M. næviæ et *M. sabotæ*, sed uropygio et supra-caudalibus schistaceo-griseis, et rectricibus angustè arenario fimbriatis facilè distinguenda. Long. tot. 6 poll., alæ 3·4.

CAPRIMULGUS DONALDSONI, sp. n.

C. similis C. fervido, Sharpe, sed minor, torque cervicali et præpectoralis latè castaneis, maculis magnis ochraceo-fulvis conspicuè marmorato distinguendus. Long. tot. 7·8 poll., alæ 5·2.

The next Meeting will take place on Wednesday, the 17th of April, 1895.

(Signed)

HOWARD SAUNDERS,
Chairman.

R. BOWDLER SHARPE,
Editor.

BULLETIN

OF THE

BRITISH ORNITHOLOGISTS' CLUB.

No. XXVI.

THE twenty-fifth meeting of the Club was held at the Restaurant Frascati, 32 Oxford Street, on Wednesday, the 17th of April, 1895..

Chairman: P. L. SCLATER, F.R.S.

Members present:—E. BIDWELL, H. J. PEARSON, F. PENROSE, HOWARD SAUNDERS (*Treasurer*), W. L. SCLATER, R. BOWDLER SHARPE (*Editor*), W. B. TEGETMEIER, Major HORACE TERRY, AUBYN TREVOR-BATTYE, JOHN YOUNG.

Visitors: J. W. CASTLE, H. STEVENS, Prof. TRAQUAIR, W. F. URWICK.

Mr. SCLATER gave a short account of the tour he had recently made up the Nile from Cairo to Wadi Halfeh and back. Travelling by the post-steamer, he had been unable to make collections, but with the aid of field-glasses had identified examples of about 50 species of birds. In February above the First Cataract many birds were already breeding, although the ordinary migrants from the south had not yet arrived. Young Hoopoes and Wheatears fully fledged were offered for sale by the natives. A nest and two eggs of the Pale Crag-Swallow (*Cotile obsoleta*) had been taken from a ledge in the smaller temple at Abou Simbel. The necessity for a new edition of Shelley's 'Birds of Egypt' was insisted on.

[April 30th, 1895.]

Mr. BIDWELL exhibited, by permission of Mr. H. Stevens, a handsome specimen of the egg of the Great Auk (*Alca impennis*), from the collection of Sir F. Milner. The specimen was especially remarkable for the "pitted" nature of the shell.

Mr. STEVENS showed a large photograph of the Great Auk, taken from a specimen in Sir F. Milner's collection, which had been remounted by Mr. Cullingford of Durham, and which was considered to be one of the finest known specimens of the bird.

Dr. BOWDLER SHARPE brought some specimens of birds from the collection recently made by Dr. Donaldson Smith, during his expedition from Somali-land to Lake Rudolf. In addition to those species described at the last Meeting of the Club, Dr. Sharpe exhibited examples of the following new species:—

TURACUS DONALDSONI, sp. n.

T. pileo antico viridi, postice pallidè coccineo, et maculâ magnâ anteoculari albâ distinguendus. Long. tot. 16·5 poll., alæ 7·2.

Hab. Meo.

LOPHOCEROS SIBBENSIS, sp. n.

L. similis *L. deckeni*, tectricibus alarum nigris, minimè albo maculatis, sed statura minore et rostro toto nigro distinguendus. Long. tot. 15 poll., alæ 6·3.

Hab. Sibbe.

Mr. A. TREVOR-BATTYE exhibited a curious white variety of a Brent Goose, which he had procured at Kolguev Island, and gave an account of the mode of capture of these Geese by the Samoyedes.

Dr. BOWDLER SHARPE referred to the loss which the Club had recently sustained, by the death of its esteemed member, Mr. Edward Hargitt, and gave an account of his life and work, with especial reference to the series of paintings of Woodpeckers which Mr. Hargitt had executed for his

proposed 'Monograph of the *Picidae*.' These paintings were 1300 in number, and had taken twelve years in execution. They comprised portraits of every type submitted to him, and of every variation in plumage which existed in his own collection of Woodpeckers, and in those of other public and private Museums to which the deceased artist had had access.

On the motion of the Chairman, a letter of condolence with Miss Hargitt, who had been for many years his faithful coadjutor in this preparation for his 'Monograph,' was passed by the Meeting.

It was agreed that the next Meeting of the Club should be held on Wednesday, the 22nd of May (*not* the 15th), at the Restaurant Frascati, 32 Oxford Street, W.

(Signed)

P. L. SCLATER,	R. BOWDLER SHARPE,	HOWARD SAUNDERS,
<i>Chairman.</i>	<i>Editor.</i>	<i>Sec. & Treas.</i>

BULLETIN

OF THE

BRITISH ORNITHOLOGISTS' CLUB.

No. XXVII.

THE twenty-sixth meeting of the Club was held at the Restaurant Frascati, 32 Oxford Street, on Wednesday, the 22nd of May, 1895.

Chairman : P. L. SCLATER, F.R.S.

Members present :—E. BIDWELL, W. E. DE WINTON, J. GERRARD, Col. H. W. FEILDEN, Major A. P. LOYD, R. NESHAM, W. R. OGILVIE-GRANT, H. J. PEARSON, C. E. PEARSON, FRANK PENROSE, DIGBY PIGOTT, C.B., R. H. READ, Capt. SAVILE G. REID, HOWARD SAUNDERS (*Treasurer*), HENRY SEEBOHM, R. BOWDLER SHARPE (*Editor*), E. CAVENDISH TAYLOR, A. TREVOR-BATTYE, Col. YERBURY, JOHN YOUNG.

Visitors : DR. COTMAN, J. H. FLEMING (Toronto), EDWARD HAGGARD, H. STEVENS, R. WARREN.

Mr. W. R. OGILVIE-GRANT gave an account of his recent expedition to the Salvage Islands, between the Canaries and Madeira, and exhibited specimens of some of the most interesting of the species obtained by him; among these were examples of *Pelagodroma marina* and *Thalassidroma cryptoleuca*.

Col. YERBURY gave some details of his visit to Aden during the past winter, when he had been successful in identifying several species of birds which had previously been undetermined.

Mr. HENRY SEEBOHM exhibited and made remarks on some specimens of *Pseudototanus guttifer* and *Eurhynchus pygmæus*, recently received by him in a collection from the mouth of the Amoor River.

[May 31st, 1895.]

Mr. E. LORT PHILLIPS sent for exhibition specimens of new species of *Merula* and *Corvus* from Somaliland. These two species had been discovered during the past winter spent by him in that country. These he proposed to call

MERULA LUDOVICIÆ, sp. n.

Similis *M. simillimæ* et *M. nigropileo* ex peninsulâ Indicâ, sed facie laterali et gutture toto nigerrimis facile distinguenda. Long. tot. 8·3 poll., culm. 0·8, alæ 4·65, caudæ 3·9, tarsi 1·2.

CORVUS EDITHÆ, sp. n.

C. similis C. corone, sed minor et corporis plumis ad basin dimidiatim purè albis, alis minimè viridi nitentibus sed purpurascenti-chalybeis distinguendus. Long. tot. 16·5 poll., culm. 1·95, alæ 12·4, caudæ 6·2, tarsi 2.

MR. BIDWELL exhibited an old model of a Great Auk's egg, believed to have been made in France about the year 1853, and undoubtedly one of the first models ever made. It was a copy of one of the eggs formerly in the possession of the late T. H. Potts, and purchased by the late Lord Garvagh at Stevens' Auction Rooms on May 24th, 1853, for £30.

Dr. BOWDLER SHARPE made some remarks on the interesting collection of birds brought by Colonel Yerbury from the neighbourhood of Aden, a full account of which will appear in 'The Ibis.' Special attention was drawn to the *Argya* and *Myrmecocichla*. The former had been alluded to by Lieut. Barnes (Ibis, 1893, p. 180) as *Argya*, sp. inc., and it was therefore interesting to find that it was the true *A. squamiceps* (Cretzschm.), though this was to have been expected. On comparing the Palestine bird usually called *A. squamiceps*, it proved to belong to a different species, and a mistake had been made in the 'Catalogue of Birds,' vol. vii. p. 395, in uniting the two. The Palestine bird must be kept distinct as *Argya chalybea* (Bp.).

Another instance of a difference between Palestine and Arabian forms was seen in the case of *Myrmecocichla melanaura*. Colonel Yerbury's specimens from Aden agreed with others from Abyssinia and Somaliland; but the Palestine

form, hitherto believed to be *M. melanura*, was distinct, and Dr. Sharpe proposed to call it

MYRMECOCICHLA YERBURYI, sp. n.

Similis *M. melanuræ*, sed pallidè cinerea, gutture et pectore dilutè cinereis, minimè vinaceo lavatis distinguenda.

Long. tot. 6 poll., culmen 0·55, alæ 3·15, caudæ 2·35, tarsi 0·8.

Hab. in Palestinâ.

A communication from the Hon. WALTER ROTHSCHILD pointed out that the generic name of *Drepanorhynchus*, proposed by Dr. Dubois for a new genus of *Fringillidæ*, containing some species hitherto referred to *Spermophila* (cf. Mém. Soc. Zool. France, vii. 1894, p. 400), was not admissible. The generic name *Drepanorhynchus* had been already employed by Dr. Reichenow for a Sun-bird from the Kilimanjaro district in East Africa, and Mr. Rothschild therefore proposed to substitute the name *Spermophilopsis* (nom. emend.) for the *Drepanorhynchus* of Dr. Dubois. The three species belonging to *Spermophilopsis* would be *S. schistaceus* (Dubois), *S. falcirostris* (Temm.), and *S. superciliaris* (Pelz.).

Mr. ROTHSCHILD also sent the following note :—"A few weeks ago I received from Mr. Travers a couple of specimens of *Sterna vittata*, Gm., shot in February on the Bounty Islands, to the south-east of New Zealand. There can be no doubt as to the identification of the species, as Mr. Howard Saunders and Mr. Hartert have compared the birds with specimens of *S. vittata* in the British Museum, and I think that this interesting new locality for a rare Antarctic bird is worth recording."

The next Meeting (concluding the Session) will take place on Wednesday, the 19th of June, 1895.

(Signed)

P. L. SCLATER,	R. BOWDLER SHARPE,	HOWARD SAUNDERS,
Chairman.	Editor.	Sec. & Treas.

BULLETIN

OF THE

BRITISH ORNITHOLOGISTS' CLUB.

No. XXVIII.

THE twenty-seventh meeting of the Club was held at the Restaurant Frascati, 32 Oxford Street, on Wednesday, the 19th of June, 1895.

Chairman: P. L. SCLATER, F.R.S.

Members present:—E. BIDWELL, F. E. BLAAUW, W. E. DE WINTON, W. GRAHAM, Major A. P. LOYD, E. NEALE, R. NESHAM, W. R. OGILVIE-GRANT, FRANK PENROSE, DIGBY PIGOTT, C.B., Hon. WALTER ROTHSCHILD, HOWARD SAUNDERS (*Treasurer*), R. BOWDLER SHARPE (*Editor*), E. CAVENDISH TAYLOR, Capt. HORACE TERRY, W. B. TEGETMEIER.

Visitors: Dr. DREWITT, HERBERT DRUCE, Heer RENESSE VAN DUIVENBODE, Dr. JORDAN, HENRY STEVENS.

Mr. W. B. TEGETMEIER exhibited a very curious variety of the Common Rook, with white tips to nearly every feather of the body. This specimen was one of several similarly marked young birds procured in the same Rookery during the last spring.

Mr. E. BIDWELL exhibited an egg of the Great Auk (*Alca impennis*), from Iceland, from the collection of Baron d'Hamonville, and formerly in the collection of Comte Raoul de Beracé.

[June 29th, 1895.]

Mr. W. R. OGILVIE-GRANT exhibited skins of some new species of birds discovered by Mr. John Whitehead in the mountains of Lepanto in Northern Luzon. They were described by Mr. Grant as follows:—

SCOPS WHITEHEADI, sp. n.

Maximus. Similis *S. everetti*, sed valdè major, et digitis basaliter plumis densè vestitis. Long. tot. maris 10 poll., alæ 7·4, tarsi 1·65. Long. tot. fœm. 11·4, alæ 8, tarsi 1·9.

RHINOMYIAS INSIGNIS, sp. n.

Magnitudine *S. gularis*, sed supercilio guttureque purè albis, necnon pectore summo et corporis lateribus lætè ferrugineis distinguenda. Long. tot. 6·4 poll., alæ 3·5.

LUSCINIOLA SEEBOHMI, sp. n.

L. similis L. mandellii, sed primariis tertio, quarto et quinto subæqualibus et longissimis: culmine magis brunnescente: hypochondriis grisescenti-brunneis nec fulvescenti-brunneis. Long. tot. 5·8 poll., alæ 2, tarsi 0·75.

BRACHYPTERYX POLIOGYNA, sp. n.

B. similis B. erythrogynæ, Sharpe, sed saturatior: long. tot. 5·5 poll., alæ 2·6, tarsi 1·25. ♀ omnino diversa, genis guttureque toto rufescenti-fulvis, præpectore dilutiore fulvo: long. tot. 5·4, alæ 2·5, tarsi 1·2.

PSEUDOTHARRHALEUS, gen. n.

Genus generi '*Androphilo*' affîne, sed rectricibus 12, nec 10, longioribus et acuminatis distinguendum.

Typus sit

PSEUDOTHARRHALEUS CAUDATUS, sp. n.

Umbrinus: gutture albo, hujus et pectoris lateribus griseis: hypochondriis umbrinis. Long. tot. 7·5 poll., alæ 2·45, tarsi 1.

ZOSTEROPS AUREILORIS, sp. n.

Z. similis Z. luzonicae, sed loris lætè aureo-flavis distinguenda. Long. tot. 4·5 poll., alæ 2·05, tarsi 1·5.

PYRRHULA LEUCOGENIS, sp. n.

P. pileo nigro : notæo sordidè olivascenti-brunneis : gastræo olivascenti-brunneo, pallidiore : subcaudalibus fulvis : genis posticis et regione paroticâ albis. Long. tot. 6·5 poll., alæ 3·1, tarsi 0·75.

BATRACHOSTOMUS MICRORHYNCHUS, sp. n.

Similis *B. septimo*, Tweedd., et *B. menagei*, B. & W., et eodem modo marmoratus, sed rostro debili et multo minore facilè distinguendus. Culm. 0·75 poll. (nec 1·05 in *B. menagei*, 1·15 in *B. septimo*), alæ 5·2, tarsi 0·7.

PRIONITURUS MONTANUS, sp. n.

P. similis P. verticali, Sharpe, sed pileo postico nuchaque saturatè gramineo-viridibus, vix quam notæum reliquum lætioribus : genis et facie laterali cyaneis. Long. tot. 12·4 poll., alæ 6·3, tarsi 0·65.

Mr. OGILVIE-GRANT made some further remarks on *Oceanodroma cryptoleucura* from the Salvage Islands. [By a *lapsus calami* this species was spoken of as *Thalassidroma cryptoleuca* in the last 'Bulletin' by the Editor.]

Dr. BOWDLER SHARPE described three more species represented in Dr. Donaldson Smith's collection from Somaliland :—

SERINUS DONALDSONI, sp. n.

Similis *S. capistrato*, sed subtùs concolor, gutture minimè maculato : hypochondriis nigro striolatis : fronte viridi, pileo concolore, angustè nigro striolato : superciliis latis flavis : notæo viridi, plumis nigro medialiter striatis : uropygio lætè flavo distinguendus. Long. tot. 6·2 poll., culm. 0·55, alæ 3·3, caudæ 2·55, tarsi 0·66.

SERINUS MACULICOLLIS, sp. n.

S. hypochondriis distinctè nigro striolatis : gulâ albidâ, torque gutturali nigro maculato insignis. Long. tot. 4·3 poll., alæ 2·6.

CRATEROPUS SMITHII, sp. n.

C. similis C. hartlaubi, et uropygio albo, sed loris et regione

periophthalmicâ albis, plumis gutturalibus et pectoralibus cinereis, nec brunneis, squamulatim albedo marginatis. Long. tot. 10·2 poll., alæ 4·15, caudæ 4·5, tarsi 1·3.

The HON. WALTER ROTHSCHILD exhibited an adult male of *Paradisornis rudolphi* from the Owen Stanley Mountains, two adult males of *Amblyornis inornata* with unusually large crests, and two immature males of *Parotia carolæ*. Judging from the similarity of the young males to adult females in the two allied species, *Parotia sexpennis* and *P. lawesi*, it was evident that the same identity of plumage was found in the immature males and adult females of *P. carolæ*. The young male birds of the latter species had the back, wing-coverts, and rump olive-brown, the outer half of the primaries and secondaries chestnut-rufous, the inner half of these quills and tail being dark brown. The breast, flanks, and thighs were rufous buff, barred with black. The adult plumage had already been assumed on the head.

Mr. SCLATER exhibited three beautifully made skins of *Falco richardsoni* of North America (♂, ♂, ♀) obtained in Lorimer County, Colorado, in December 1891 and February 1892, and transmitted to Mr. Sclater by Mr. W. E. Brooks for examination. There was at present only one specimen (♂ jr.) of this rare Falcon in the British Museum.

Mr. SCLATER also exhibited a nest and two eggs of the Pale Rock-Martin, *Ptyonoprogne obsoleta* (see Sharpe & Wyatt, Monogr. Hirund. vol. i. pl. xvi.), which he had taken on the 25th February last from a ledge of rock in the smaller rock-temple of Abu Simbel, Upper Egypt. The eggs appeared to be quite fresh, but one of them had been unfortunately broken on the journey home. The nest consisted almost entirely of feathers mixed with a few dry hay-straws; it was very loosely made and placed on a slight basis of dry mud.

Mr. F. E. BLAAUW gave an account of the nesting of a pair of Rufous Tinamous (*Rhyechotus rufescens*) in his garden

at 'sGraveland. Five eggs were laid in a slight nest made by the male, and four young ones hatched. Incubation was undertaken entirely by the cock bird, which only left the nest to feed. The cock also took entire charge of the young brood, but it had not been found necessary to remove the hen from his company. The fact of the male's incubation had already been recorded by Mr. Bartlett (see P. Z. S. 1868, p. 114), but it was interesting to have it confirmed. In 'Argentine Ornithology' (vol. ii. p. 110) the question had been left unsettled by Messrs. Sclater and Hudson.

The next Meeting will take place on Wednesday, the 16th of October, 1895.

(Signed)

P. L. SCLATER,	R. BOWDLER SHARPE,	HOWARD SAUNDERS,
<i>Chairman.</i>	<i>Editor.</i>	<i>Sec. & Treas.</i>

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BULLETIN
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BRITISH ORNITHOLOGISTS' CLUB.

EDITED BY
R. BOWDLER SHARPE, LL.D.

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ALERE FLAMMAM.



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PREF

I HAVE to return my best thanks to the Treasurer of the Club, as well as to Mr. Grant and other kind friends, who have rendered in carrying on the business during my recent illness. It has been a great pleasure to have been absent from some of the meetings which have taken place since t

The communications made during the year have been as important as in previous years. The Club is indicated by the fact that the number is now one hundred and eleven

(Signed)

September 12th, 1896.

R U L E S
OF THE
BRITISH ORNITHOLOGISTS' CLUB.

(As amended 20th June, 1894.)

I. This Club was founded for the purpose of facilitating the social intercourse of Members of the British Ornithologists' Union. Any Member of that Union can become a Member of this Club on payment (to the Treasurer) of an entrance fee of *Five Shillings* and a subscription of *Five Shillings* for the current Session. Resignation of the Union involves resignation of the Club.

II. Members who have not paid their subscriptions before the last Meeting of the Session shall cease, *ipso facto*, to be Members of the Club, but may be reinstated on payment of arrears, *and* a new entrance fee.

III. No Member of the B O. U. can attend the Meetings of the Club as a Visitor, unless his usual residence is outside the United Kingdom. Every Member of the Club introducing a visitor shall pay *One Shilling* to the Treasurer *.

IV. The Club shall meet, as a rule, on the Third Wednesday in every Month, from October to June inclusive, at such hour and place as may be arranged by the Committee. At these Meetings papers upon ornithological subjects shall be read, specimens exhibited, and discussion invited.

* The latter portion of this Rule is at present (1896) in abeyance, owing to the prosperous condition of the finances.

V. An Abstract of the Proceedings of the B. O. C. shall be printed as soon as possible after each Meeting, under the title of the 'Bulletin of the British Ornithologists' Club,' and distributed gratis to every Member *who has paid his subscription*. Copies of this Bulletin shall be published and sold at *One Shilling* each.

VI. The affairs of this Club shall be managed by a Committee, to consist of the Editors of 'The Ibis,' the Editor of the 'Bulletin,' and the Secretary and Treasurer, *ex officio*, with three other Members, one of whom shall be changed every year. The Committee shall have power to make and alter the Bye-laws.

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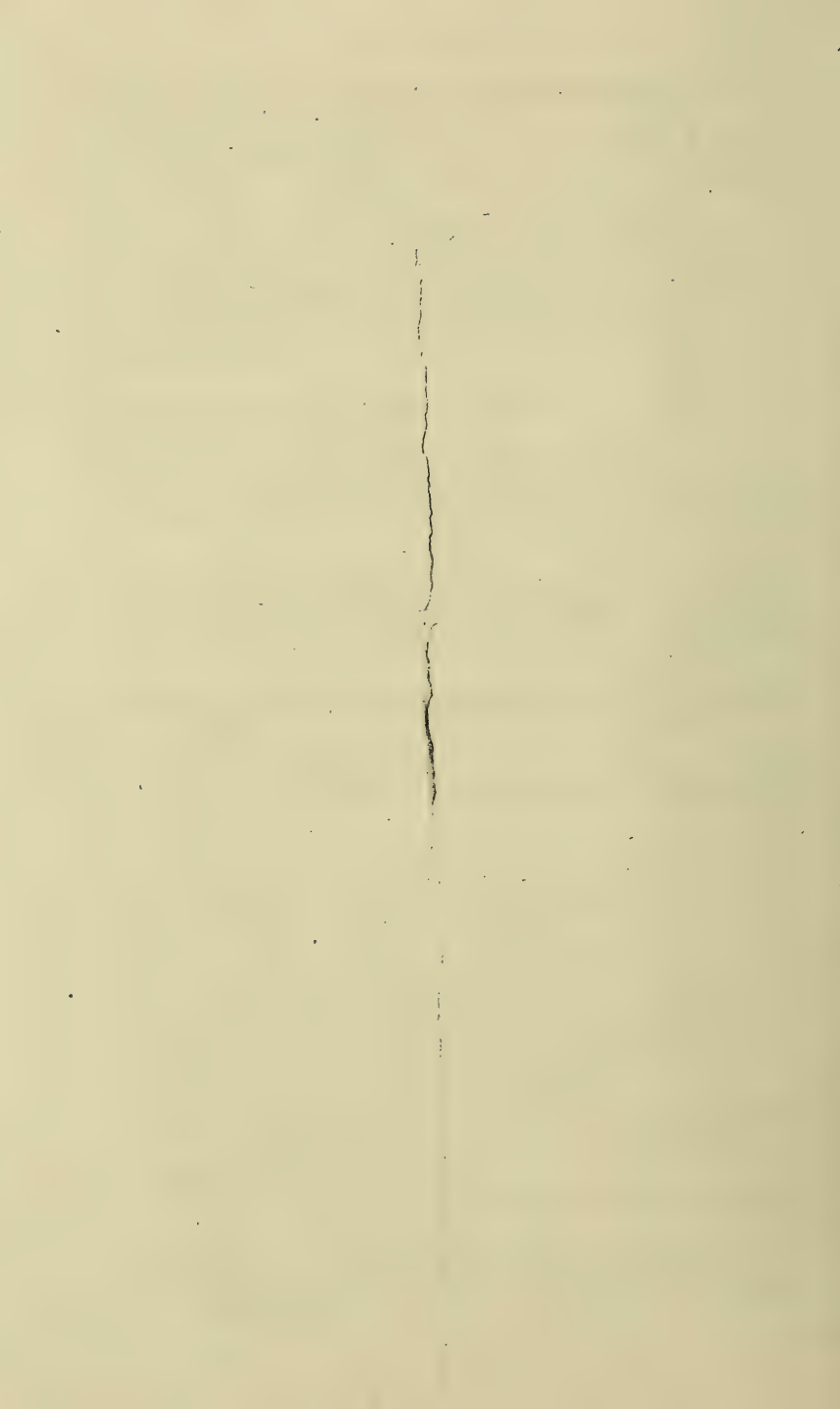
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CHAIRMAN'S ADDRESS

ON OPENING THE FOURTH SESSION

OF THE

BRITISH ORNITHOLOGISTS' CLUB, 1895.

On taking the Chair at the first meeting of the Fourth Session of the B. O. C., I propose to address to you a few remarks on recent events in Ornithology. Before commencing these, however, I must express the regret which all the Members of the Club will feel at the loss we have lately suffered by the death of our friend and colleague, Henry Thornton Wharton, who was well known to us as an expert in British Ornithology, and as the author of a useful list of British Birds, published in 1877. He was also the active and efficient Secretary of the Committee for the preparation of the B. O. U. List of British Birds, published in 1883, and General Editor of that work. In the composition of the B. O. U. List, Wharton's classical knowledge was of very great assistance to the Committee, and it was to his learning that we are indebted for the explanations of the generic and specific terms, which form such useful features in that work. I must also not forget that we have lately lost from our ranks an energetic Indian ornithologist, Lieut. Henry E. Barnes, F.Z.S. I may likewise allude to the untimely death, from hematuric fever, of Ernst Baumann, as recently announced at Berlin. Baumann was a young and energetic collector, who had worked hard at the Birds of the German Colony of Togoland, on the West Coast of Africa, and had added upwards of 100 species to its avifauna.

I will now proceed to more cheerful topics.

Since we commenced our last Session great progress has been made with the British Museum Catalogue of Birds, and we may well expect that the year 1896 will witness its final completion. Count Salvadori's volume on the Anseres, Tinami, and other lower Orders is complete and ready for publication. The joint-volume of Mr. Saunders (on the Laridæ) and Mr. Salvin (on the Tubinares) is nearly ready, I am informed; and that of Dr. Bowdler Sharpe on the Waders is said to be in a very forward state. There remains, therefore, only Dr. Sharpe's Catalogue of the Divers, Pelicans, Cormorants, and Herons, on which, I believe our Editor is busily employed at the present time. I am much pleased also to learn that steps have been taken towards the compilation of an additional volume (as suggested in my last Address), in which the names of all species described since the commencement of the Catalogue in 1874, and not already recorded in the different volumes, will be enrolled. When this additional volume and the General Index of the whole series shall have been issued, the result will be a work of surpassing value to all workers on the Class of Birds.

As regards other works on systematic Ornithology in progress, I will not say much more on the present occasion. I may, however, mention that Captain Shelley is now engaged in printing a complete Catalogue of African Birds, which he has had for some years in preparation. Captain Shelley's intimate acquaintance with this subject will, no doubt, render it a most useful and valuable work. As soon as it is finished, we must call upon him to prepare a new edition of the 'Birds of Egypt.' When visiting that country last winter, I received many complaints as to this useful volume being out of print. I may also express a hope, which I am sure will be joined in by all ornithologists, that Capt. Bendire's 'Life-Histories of North-American Birds,' of which the first part was published in 1892, will be continued and completed. Such a work is just what we require for a better understanding of the Nearctic Ornis.

As regards future explorations, on which I sometimes obtrude my advice, it is still abundantly manifest that every

piece of new land into which the traveller thrusts his way will continue to supply novelties in Ornithology, as in other branches of Natural History, and that the age of discovery is by no means yet past. Dr. Donaldson Smith's researches in Galla-land, Mr. Whitehead's expedition to the Philippines, and Mr. Baron's excursions in the Andes of Northern Peru, alike prove that such is not the case. From New Guinea, again, and the adjacent islands, as the Members of this Club well know, we still continue to receive new and most strange forms of Paradise-birds. One of the most remarkable of these extraordinary birds (*Pteridophora alberti*) has only become known to us during the last Session of the Club. As the mountains of New Guinea become invaded by the scientific explorer, more, no doubt, remain to follow. But to invade the recesses of Galla-land, the Philippines, or Peru, are tasks not to be undertaken lightly. For shorter excursions which might be accomplished in a winter's travel, besides the expedition up the Euphrates, which I suggested in last year's Address, I will venture to put forward the claims of Tripoli and Arabia Felix to ornithological investigation. Tripoli, lying between Tunis and Egypt, presents features of considerable interest, and though its birds would be few, yet we should like to know what *are* to be found there. Tripoli is commonly supposed to be inaccessible from the fanaticism of its inhabitants; but it is evident from Mr. Cowper's recent archæological expedition into that country (of which an account was given at the recent Meeting of the British Association) that these supposed difficulties are by no means unsurmountable. Where the archæologist can go the naturalist can surely follow. The Editors of 'The Ibis' have already sung the praises of Arabia Felix in their last number (see 'Ibis,' 1895, p. 510). It is a pity that Mr. Bent did not take a collector with him to Dhofar. As he neglected this good opportunity, some ornithologist must follow in his footsteps, and tell us what the birds of Dhofar really are.

In concluding my remarks I will again urge upon you the great want of a convenient Handbook on the Anatomy of Birds. Notwithstanding the labours of Garrod, Forbes, and

Gadow in this country, and Fürbringer on the continent, we have no convenient systematic treatise on this important subject in a handy form. There is an enormous quantity of knowledge available, but it requires to be concentrated into a tangible shape. I may say, however, that I have some hopes that Mr. Beddard and Mr. Chalmers Mitchell, who is working with Mr. Beddard in the Zoological Society's Prosectorium, will undertake this formidable task, and that before long we may be gratified by having ready for use a Handbook on the Anatomy of Birds, properly illustrated and written in the tongue most familiar to us.

BULLETIN

OF THE

BRITISH ORNITHOLOGISTS' CLUB.

No. XXIX.

THE twenty-eighth meeting of the Club was held at the Restaurant Frascati, 32 Oxford Street, on Wednesday, the 23rd of October, 1895.

Chairman : P. L. SCLATER, F.R.S.

Members present :—G. BARRETT-HAMILTON, E. BIDWELL, PHILIP CROWLEY, W. E. DE WINTON, A. H. EVANS, Major A. P. LOYD, E. NEALE, R. NESHAM, W. R. OGILVIE GRANT, C. E. PEARSON, H. J. PEARSON, FRANK PENROSE, T. DIGBY PIGOTT, C.B., HOWARD SAUNDERS (*Treasurer*), HENRY SEEBOHM, R. BOWDLER SHARPE (*Editor*), Capt. G. E. SHELLEY, W. B. TEGETMEIER, H. M. WALLIS, C. A. WRIGHT.

Visitors : Dr. F. D. DREWITT, C. E. FAGAN, Sir WILLIAM FLOWER, K.C.B., F.R.S., Sir HENRY HOWORTH, K.C.I.E., F.R.S.

The CHAIRMAN gave his annual Address to the Club. This is printed separately.

The TREASURER congratulated the Club on the satisfactory condition of its Finances, and suggested that the Rule respecting guest-money should be suspended for the present. This suggestion was adopted.

Major A. P. LOYD was elected on the Committee, in place of Mr. H. SEEBOHM, who retired by rotation.

[October 31st, 1895.]

Mr. H. J. PEARSON gave a most interesting account of his expedition to Kolguev and Novaya Zemlya, in the yacht 'Saxon,' during the summer of 1895. He exhibited a series of the eggs of the Grey Plover (*Squatarola helvetica*) and the Little Stint (*Tringa minuta*) from Kolguev. At his request, the further account of the expedition to Novaya Zemlya was postponed till the next Meeting.

Mr. C. E. PEARSON exhibited one of the nests of the Little Stint, which he presented to the National Collection.

A pair of nestlings of Bewick's Swan (*Cygnus bewicki*), obtained by Colonel Feilden, who accompanied the expedition, was also exhibited. These also were presented to the British Museum.

Mr. W. R. OGILVIE GRANT exhibited specimens of some new species of birds sent by Mr. John Whitehead from the Philippines:—

SIPHIA ENGANENSIS, sp. n.

♂ similis *S. pallidipedi*, sed hypochondriis cervinis distinguenda. ♀ vero a ♀ *S. pallidipedis*, loris ferrugineis, et fasciâ superciliari angustâ cæruleâ trans frontem ductâ distinguenda. Long. tot. 6·0 poll., culm. 0·7, alæ 3·1, caudæ 2·1, tarsi 0·88.

Hab. Cape Engano, Luzon.

HYPSIPETES FUGENSIS, sp. n.

♂ ♀. Similis *H. pryeri*, sed pileo colloque brunneis, nec cinereis, et dorso concoloribus, abdomine haud albo notato distinguendus. Long. tot. 10·5 poll., culm. 1·15, alæ 4·85, caudæ 4·65, tarsi 0·85.

Hab. Fuga Island, Babuyan Group.

ZOSTERORNIS DENNISTOUNI, sp. n.

Z. sordide viridescens, notæo angustè albido striolato: subtus pallide flavus, gulâ lætiore: fronte et sincipite aureis distinguendus. Long. tot. 5·5 poll., culm. 0·7, alæ 2·7, caudæ 2·2, tarsi 0·75.

Hab. Cape Engano, Luzon.

ORTHOTOMUS CHLORONOTUS, sp. n.

Similis *O. derbiano*, sed notæo toto et subcaudalibus oli-

vascenti-viridibus distinguendus. Long. tot. 4·8 poll.,
alæ 2·2, caudæ 1·8, tarsi 0·8.

Hab. Cape Engano, N.E. Luzon.

Mr. GRANT also described a new *Proparus* from Manipur and the Naga Hills, which he proposed to call

PROPARUS AUSTENI, sp. n.

P. similis P. vinipectori, sed pileo rufescentiore, et albedine gutturis restrictâ: præpectore vinaceo nec albo distinguendus. Long. tot. 4·5 poll., culm. 0·43, alæ 2·3, caudæ 2·0, tarsi 0·9.

Captain SHELLEY described three new species of African Barbets, as follows:—

STACTOLEMA WOODWARDI, sp. n.

Simile *S. olivaceo*, Shelley, sed paullo major, et plagâ magnâ sulphureâ auriculari usque ad nucham productâ distinguendum. Long. tot. 6·5 poll., culm. 0·75, alæ 3·5, caudæ 2·3, tarsi 0·95.

Hab. Zulu Land.

TRICHOLEMA ANSORGII.

Simile *T. hirsuto*, sed hypochondriis latius nigro maculatis, minime albo fasciatis distinguendum. Long. tot. 6·3 poll., alæ 3·5.

Hab. Uganda.

TRICHOLEMA GABONENSE, sp. n.

Simile *T. hirsuto*, sed brunnescentius, et facie laterali haud albo notatâ distinguendum. Long. tot. 7·3 poll., culm. 0·95, alæ 3·6, caudæ 2·1, tarsi 0·9.

Hab. Gaboon to Cameroons.

Dr. BOWDLER SHARPE stated that a recent examination of the type of *Bradyornis woodwardi* from Natal had convinced him that it was only an example of *Sylvia simplex* (= *S. hortensis*, auct.) in greenish plumage. The specimen in question had a somewhat abnormally shaped bill, which made it look like a *Bradyornis*, and, moreover, the plumage did not resemble that of any specimen of *S. simplex* with which it had been compared. The greenish plumage must be that

of the freshly moulted bird in its winter-quarters, and therefore in a stage not seen in European examples.

Mr. HENRY SEEBOHM described a new species of Eagle-Owl from Sidemi, in the Ussuri country, E. Siberia. The type specimen had been obtained by Kalinowski, and presented by the Warsaw Museum to the British Museum, where it had hitherto been identified with *Bubo blakistoni*. Mr. Seebohm proposed to call it

BUBO DOERRIESI, sp. n.

Similis *B. blakistoni*, sed plaga nuchali albâ magnâ facile distinguendus. Long. tot. 25 poll., alæ 20·5, tarsi 3·2.

A second specimen had been procured by Mr. Doerries near Vladivostock, and five specimens were now known, all of them agreeing in the possession of a white nape-spot. It would seem that *B. doerriesi* also had a nearly white tail when fully adult.

The next Meeting of the Club will take place on Wednesday, the 20th of November, at the Restaurant Frascati, 32 Oxford Street, at 7 P.M., when Mr. H. J. PEARSON will continue his account of the expedition to Novaya Zemlya.

Mr. HOWARD SAUNDERS, one of the Delegates to the International Congress held in Paris for the Protection of Birds useful to Agriculture, will give some account of the proceedings; and his colleague, Sir HERBERT MAXWELL, Bart., M.P., will be present as a visitor.

(Signed)

P. L. SCLATER,	R. BOWDLER SHARPE,	HOWARD SAUNDERS,
Chairman.	Editor.	Sec. & Treas.

P.S.—The Editor requests that an abstract of any communication intended for discussion at any Meeting of the Club may be forwarded to him *at least five days before* the date of Meeting.

BULLETIN

OF THE

BRITISH ORNITHOLOGISTS' CLUB.

No. XXX.

THE twenty-ninth meeting of the Club was held at the Restaurant Frascati, 32 Oxford Street, on Wednesday, the 20th of November, 1895.

Chairman : P. L. SCLATER, F.R.S.

Members present :—E. BIDWELL, Col. C. T. BINGHAM, PHILIP CROWLEY, E. A. S. ELLIOT, E. W. DE WINTON, Col. H. W. FEILDEN, JOHN GERRARD, J. E. HARTING, W. H. HUDSON, Major A. P. LOYD, J. G. MILLAIS, Dr. ST. GEORGE MIVART, F.R.S., R. NESHAM, W. R. OGILVIE-GRANT, H. J. PEARSON, FRANK PENROSE, EVELYN RAWSON, HOWARD SAUNDERS (*Treasurer*), R. BOWDLER SHARPE (*Editor*), E. CAVENDISH TAYLOR, Major HORACE TERRY, A. TREVOR-BATTYE, W. B. TEGETMEIER, C. A. WRIGHT, J. YOUNG.

Visitors : Dr. F. D. DREWITT, H. TABOR BROOKS, Admiral A. H. MARKHAM, Sir HERBERT MAXWELL, Bart., M.P., H. MUNT.

Mr. SCLATER called attention to the fine specimen of the Spotted Redshank (*Totanus fuscus*) now living in the Fish House in the Zoological Society's Gardens, and obtained on October 17th, along with other waders, from Spalding in Lincolnshire. It was the first specimen, so far as was known, that had been received by the Zoological Society, and Mr. Bartlett, in all his long experience, had never seen a living specimen in captivity before.

Mr. SCLATER also exhibited a portrait (lithograph) of Prof. Giglioli, presented by the latter to the British Ornithologists' Union.

[November 30th, 1895.]

Mr. SCLATER stated that in view of the large amount of work he had done in American Ornithology, the Authorities of the Smithsonian Institution had kindly agreed to publish, in the Bulletin of the U.S. National Museum, a complete Bibliography of his published writings from 1844 to 1894 inclusive. The MS. of this volume, which was already in type, had been prepared under his superintendence by Mr. G. A. Doubleday. The list contained the titles of 1239 publications, many of which, however, were short notes and notices.

Mr. HOWARD SAUNDERS gave a brief sketch of the proceedings at the International Congress recently held at Paris to consider the legislation necessary for the protection of birds useful to agriculture, to which he had been accredited as the delegate of the British Government, with Sir Herbert Maxwell, Bart., M.P. Sir Herbert also gave an interesting account of the diplomatic work of the Congress.

Professor MENZBIER, of Moscow, forwarded, on behalf of Mr. Sushkin, the diagnosis of a new species of Goose, which Mr. Sushkin proposed to call

ANSER NEGLECTUS, n. sp.

A. ab A. brachyrhyncho staturâ majore, rostro longiore et graciliore, secundariorum tectricibus atro-fuscis, tectricibus carpalibus discoloribus: ab *A. segetum* pedibus zonaque rostri incarnatis distinguendus.

The full description of the species will appear in 'The Ibis.'

Dr. J. VON MADARASZ, of the Hungarian National Museum, sent for exhibition some photographs of a nest of the Chimney-Swallow (*Hirundo rustica*) built in a curious position among the hanging branches of a vine.

Dr. W. T. BLANFORD, F.R.S., communicated a note on the two Sarus Cranes of the Indian Region. He agreed with Dr. Bowdler Sharpe that there were two distinct forms:

one found in the Indian Peninsula and the other in the Burmese Provinces. The latter had been recognized by Dr. Sharpe as the true *Grus antigone* of Linnæus, but, in Dr. Blanford's opinion, this name was founded on Edwards's description of the Greater Indian Crane (Nat. Hist. Birds, i. p. 45, pl. 45), which was said to have "the neck very long, covered in the upper parts with white feathers, which gradually become ash-coloured towards its bottom." This, Dr. Blanford contended, could only apply to the Indian bird, and he therefore proposed the name of *Grus (Antigone) sharpii* for the dark-coloured Burmese form, which had no white on the neck. The characters of the two species were clearly given by Dr. Sharpe in the twenty-third volume of the 'Catalogue of Birds,' pp. 263, 264.

Mr. H. J. PEARSON continued his narrative of his recent expedition to Kolguev and Novaya Zemlya, and exhibited specimens of the downy nestlings of Bewick's Swan, Bean Goose, Common Eider, Grey Plover, Turnstone, Dunlin, and Temminck's Stint. He also brought for exhibition a beautiful series of the eggs of Brünnich's Guillemot.

An interesting discussion ensued on Mr. Pearson's paper, in which Admiral Markham, Mr. Howard Saunders, Mr. Selater, and others took part.

The next Meeting of the Club will take place on Wednesday, the 18th of December, at the Restaurant Frascati, 32 Oxford Street, at 7 P.M.

(Signed)

P. L. SCLATER,	R. BOWDLER SHARPE,	HOWARD SAUNDERS,
Chairman.	Editor.	Sec. & Treas.

BULLETIN

OF THE

BRITISH ORNITHOLOGISTS' CLUB.

No. XXXI.

THE thirtieth meeting of the Club was held at the Restaurant Frascati, 32 Oxford Street, on Wednesday, the 18th of December, 1895.

Chairman: P. L. SCLATER, F.R.S.

Members present:—G. BARRETT-HAMILTON, R. M. BARRINGTON, E. BIDWELL, Col. C. T. BINGHAM, J. L. BONHOTE, PHILIP CROWLEY, W. E. DE WINTON, W. GRAHAM, W. R. OGILVIE-GRANT, ERNST HARTERT, Major A. P. LOYD, J. G. MILLAIS, R. NESHAM, H. J. PEARSON, FRANK PENROSE, HOWARD SAUNDERS (*Treasurer*), R. BOWDLER SHARPE (*Editor*), Capt. G. E. SHELLEY, Rev. H. H. SLATER, C. A. WRIGHT, JOHN YOUNG.

Visitors: F. V. McCONNELL, H. STEVENS, W. N. WOOD.

THE CHAIRMAN spoke of the loss which the Club had sustained since its last meeting, by the death of Mr. Henry Seebohm, of whose life and work he gave a short account. He proposed that a message of condolence be sent to the family, and this was unanimously agreed to. Mr. Sclater also expressed a hope that some means would be found to publish the 'Monograph of the Turdidæ,' which Mr. Seebohm had left in a forward state.

Mr. J. G. MILLAIS exhibited photographs of Swallows' nests built in the branches of stags' horns at Warnham Court. One of these nests had been so built for nine years in succession.

[December 30th, 1895.]

Mr. ERNST HARTERT exhibited skins of *Podargus ocellatus*, Quoy & Gaim., and the type of a new *Podargus*, of which the Tring Museum had received a number of specimens, and which he characterized as follows :—

PODARGUS INTERMEDIUS, sp. n.

Similis *P. ocellato*, sed multo major ; alis 243–211 millim., caud. 200–206.

Hab. ‘ Kiriwina,’ in insulis ‘ Trobriand ’ (typus) et ‘ Fergusson ’ in ins. ‘ D’Entrecasteaux ’ dictis.

“ *Obs.*—This species is remarkably larger than *P. ocellatus* and *P. ocellatus marmoratus*, and all the specimens are alike, so that it must be described. The wing in *P. ocellatus* is usually under, and seldom over 180 millim. long, so that there is generally a difference of at least 20–25 millim., or about an inch. The same striking differences in size are obvious in all the other parts, such as beak, feet, &c., as may be seen at a glance in the specimens exhibited. *P. intermedius* is intermediate in size between *P. ocellatus* and its sub-species and the gigantic *P. papuensis*, Quoy & Gaim., which has a wing of about 300 millim. or a foot, while it agrees in colour with both of the species, varying just as much, the females now before me being more rufous.”

“ This interesting new form was discovered by Mr. Albert S. Meek, who also found its nest and eggs, which will be described elsewhere.”

Mr. HARTERT likewise exhibited a new Goatsucker, which he characterized as follows :—

CAPRIMULGUS ROSENBERGI, sp. n.

♀. Similis *C. ocellato*, sed duabus maculis rotundis albis in tectricibus longissimis alarum primo visu distinguendus : macula collari alba maxima : rectricibus omnibus albo terminatis, abdominis sine maculis albis conspicuis. Long. al. 5·2 poll., caud. 4·7, tarsi 0·6. “ Iris brunnea.”

Hab. Ad flumen ‘ Dagua ’ dictum, in Colombia occidentali, W. Rosenberg coll. April 2, 1895.

Type in the Rothschild Museum.

Dr. BOWDLER SHARPE gave the following systematic list of the species of the family *Ardeidae*, as determined by him

during his recent studies of these birds for the twenty-seventh volume of the 'Catalogue of Birds in the British Museum':—

1. *Phoyx purpurea* (L.).
2. ——— *manillensis* (Meyen).
3. *Ardea goliath*, Cretzschm.
4. ——— *sumatrana*, Raffl.
5. ——— *insignis*, Hodgs.
6. ——— *humbloti*, Milne-Edw. & Oust.
7. ——— *melanocephala*, Vig. & Childr.
8. ——— *cocqi*, L.
9. ——— *cinerea*, L.
10. ——— *herodias*, L.
11. ——— *occidentalis*, Aud.
12. *Mesophoyx intermedia* (Wagl.).
13. ——— *brachyrhyncha* (Brehm).
14. ——— *plumifera* (Gould).
15. *Herodias alba* (L.).
16. ——— *egretta* (Wils.).
17. ——— *timoriensis* (Less.).
18. *Florida cærulea* (L.).
19. *Melanophoyx ardesiaca* (Wagl.).
20. ——— *vinaceigula*, Sharpe.
21. *Dichromanassa rufa* (Bodd.).
22. *Notophoyx novæ-hollandiæ* (Lath.).
23. ——— *pacifica* (Lath.).
24. ——— *picata* (Gould).
25. ——— *aruensis* (Gray).
26. *Lepterodias gularis* (Bosc).
27. ——— *asha* (Sykes).
28. *Garzetta garzetta* (L.).
29. ——— *nigripes* (Temm.).
30. *Leucophoyx candidissima* (Gm.).
31. *Hydranassa tricolor* (P. L. S. Müll.).
32. ——— *ruficollis* (Gosse).
33. *Nyctanassa violacea* (L.).
34. ——— *pauper* (Scl. & Salv.).
35. *Agamia agami* (Gm.).
36. *Demiegretta sacra* (Gm.).

37. *Nycticorax nycticorax* (L.).
38. — *tayaza-guira* (V.).
39. — *cianocephalus* (Mol.).
40. — *leuconotus* (Wagl.).
41. — *caledonicus* (Gm.).
 α. crassirostris, Vig.
42. — *mandibularis*, Ogilvie-Grant.
43. — *manillensis*, Vig.
44. — *minahasæ*, Meyer & Wiglesw.
45. *Canchroma cochlearia*, L.
46. — *zeledoni*, Ridgw.
47. *Gorsachius melanolophus* (Raffl.).
48. — *goisagi* (Temm.).
49. *Syrigma cianocephalum* (Mol.).
50. *Pilerodius pileatus* (Bodd.).
51. *Butorides atricapilla* (Afzel.).
52. — *striata* (L.).
53. — *javanica* (Horsf.).
 α. amurensis (Schrenk).
 β. spodiogaster, Sharpe.
54. — *stagnatilis* (Gould).
55. — *sundevalli*, Sharpe.
56. — *virescens* (L.).
57. *Tigriornis leucolopha* (Jard.).
58. *Zonerodius heliosylus* (Less.).
59. *Tigriosoma lineatum* (Bodd.).
60. — *excellens*, Ridgw.
61. — *marmoratum* (V.).
62. — *bahicæ*, Sharpe.
63. — *fasciatum*, Such.
64. — *salmoni*, Scl. & Salv.
65. *Heterocnus cabanisi* (Heine).
66. *Erythrocnus rufiventris* (Sund.).
67. *Ardeola ralloides* (Scop.).
68. — *idæ* (Hartl.).
69. — *grayi* (Sykes).
70. — *bacchus* (Bp.).
71. — *speciosa* (Horsf.).

72. *Bubulcus lucidus* (Rafin.).
73. — *coromandus* (Bodd.).
74. *Ardetta minuta* (L.).
75. — *podicipes* (Bp.).
76. — *sinensis* (Gm.).
77. — *exilis* (Gm.).
78. — *neoxena*, Cory.
79. — *erythromelas* (V.).
80. — *pusilla* (V.).
81. — *riedeli*, Meyer & Wigglesw.
82. — *involucris* (V.).
83. — *cinnamomea* (Gm.).
84. *Zebrilus pumilus* (Bodd.).
85. *Nannocnus eurythmus* (Swinh.).
86. *Ardeirallus sturmi* (Wagl.).
87. *Dupetor flavicollis* (Lath.).
88. — *gouldi* (Bp.).
89. — *nesophilus* (Sharpe).
90. — *melas* (Salvad.).
91. *Erythrophoyx woodfordi* (Grant).
92. — *prætermissa* (Sharpe).
93. *Botaurus stellaris* (Linn.).
94. — *capensis* (Schl.).
95. — *pæciloptilus* (Wagl.).
96. — *lentiginosus* (Mont.).
97. — *pinnatus* (Wagl.).

The following new genera and species were described :—

MELANOPHOYX VINACEIGULA, sp. n.

Similis *M. ardesiacæ*, sed gutture vinaceo nec nigro distinguenda. Long. tot. 16·5 poll., culm. 2·25, alæ 9·0, caudæ 3·36, tarsi 3·05.

Hab. Transvaal. *Typus* in Mus. Brit.

NOTOPHOYX, gen. n.

Genus simile generi '*Leptorodius*' dicto, sed plumis nuchalibus dependentibus nullis distinguendum.

Typus est *Notophoyx novæ hollandiæ*.

TIGRIORNIS, gen. n.

Genus simile generi '*Tigriosoma*' dicto, sed tarso anteriore reticulato distinguendum.

Typus est *Tigriornis leucolopha* (Jard.).

HETEROCNUS, gen. n.

Genus simile generi '*Tigriosoma*' dicto, sed gutture medialiter plumoso distinguendum.

Typus est *Heterocnus cabanisi* (Heine).

TIGRIOSOMA BAHLE, sp. n.

Similis *T. lineato* (Bodd.), sed pectore et abdomine brunneis atque fulvo latè fasciatis distinguendum. Long. tot. 24.0 poll., culm. 4.2, alæ 10.8, caudæ 4.2, tarsi 4.0.

Hab. Bahia, Brazil.

Dr. SHARPE exhibited, on behalf of Dr. J. E. T. Aitchison, F.R.S., a pair of Himalayan Woodpeckers (*Dendrocopus himalayensis*), shot by him in his garden at Murree, N.W. Himalayas, in September. The birds were killed in the act of making holes in walnuts for the purpose of extracting the kernel for food. Dr. Aitchison wrote that two walnut-trees in his garden were infested by these Woodpeckers, which destroyed a large number of walnuts, picking them off the ground when they fell, and inserting them in crevices and holes in the bark of trees, until they had managed to hammer a hole through the shells.

Dr. SHARPE also described a new species of Weaver-bird from Eastern Africa, collected by Dr. Donaldson Smith. He gave the following diagnosis of the species :—

PLOCEIPASSER DONALDSONI, sp. n.

P. brunneus, frontis et verticis plumis brunneis, albo squamatis marginatis: uropygio et supracaudalibus albis: rectricibus albo terminatis: subtus isabellinus, facie laterali gulæque albis, fasciâ mystacali posticâ nigrâ: pectore summo vix fusco striolato distinguendus. Long. tot. 6.7 poll., culm. 0.7, alæ 3.8, caudæ 2.3, tarsi 0.9.

Dr. SHARPE also exhibited a specimen of the Red-throated Pipit (*Anthus cervinus*), which had been submitted to him

for identification by Mr. W. C. J. Ruskin-Butterfield, of St. Leonard's. The specimen had been shot near Hastings on the 13th of November, and was a male in full winter plumage.

Mr. W. R. OGILVIE-GRANT exhibited specimens of two apparently undescribed birds from the Owen Stanley Mountains, in S.E. New Guinea :—

OREOPSITTACUS GRANDIS, sp. n.

♂ similis *O. arfaki* ♂, sed multo major, et plagâ abdominali rubrâ absente distinguendus. Long. tot. 6·3 poll., culm. 0·7, alæ 3·5, caudæ 3·3, tarsi 0·65.

♀ similis *O. arfaki* ♀, sed multò major et abdomine viridi concolore distinguenda.

MELIPOTES ATRICEPS, sp. n.

Similis *M. gymnopi*, sed subtus minimè albo notata, et subalaribus pallidè cervinis distinguenda. Long. tot. 8·0 poll., culm. 1·92, alæ 4·3, caudæ 3·9, tarsi 1·2.

Captain G. E. SHELLEY gave some details of his projected new 'Handbook to the Birds of Africa,' of which the first volume is nearly ready for issue.



The next Meeting of the Club will take place on Wednesday, the 15th of January, 1896, at the Restaurant Frascati, 32 Oxford Street; the dinner at 7 P.M.

(Signed)

P. L. SCLATER,	R. BOWDLER SHARPE,	HOWARD SAUNDERS,
<i>Chairman.</i>	<i>Editor.</i>	<i>Sec. & Treas.</i>

BULLETIN

OF THE

BRITISH ORNITHOLOGISTS' CLUB.

No. XXXII.

THE thirty-first meeting of the Club was held at the Restaurant Frascati, 32 Oxford Street, on Wednesday, the 15th of January, 1896.

Chairman: P. L. SCLATER, F.R.S.

Members present:—G. BARRETT-HAMILTON, E. BIDWELL, Lt.-Col. C. T. BINGHAM, F. E. BLAAUW, F. E. BEDDARD, F.R.S., PHILIP CROWLEY, A. H. EVANS, W. GRAHAM, Dr. A. GÜNTHER, F.R.S., G. H. CATON HAIGH, R. NESHAM, W. R. OGILVIE-GRANT, CHAS. E. PEARSON, H. J. PEARSON, F. PENROSE, HOWARD SAUNDERS (*Treasurer*), W. L. SCLATER, Dr. R. BOWDLER SHARPE (*Editor*), Capt. G. E. SHELLEY, F. STYAN, W. B. TEGETMEIER.

Visitors: Dr. F. D. DREWITT, J. MITCHELL, ARNOLD PIKE.

MR. SCLATER gave the outlines of a scheme for a new general work on Birds, which he had long planned and which he proposed to bring before the next meeting of the B. O. U. with the hope of inducing his brother ornithologists to assist in it. Now that the great 'Catalogue of Birds' in the British Museum was approaching completion, it was manifest that the possibility of preparing a general handbook of the described species of birds (something in the style of Bonaparte's 'Conspectus') was greatly increased. In Mr. Sclater's opinion the best way of effecting this desirable object would be to separate the handbook into six portions, corresponding

[January 31st, 1896.]

to the six great Geographical Regions of the earth's surface. Taking the described species of birds as about 12,000, each volume appropriated to a Region would relate, on an average, to 2000 species. After adding to each volume 500 species for those that occurred in more than one Region, there would thus be (on the average) about 2500 species to be treated of in each volume.

Mr. Sclater proposed that, besides a reference to the British Museum Catalogue, only a short Latin diagnosis, a few selected synonyms, and the *patria* should be added to the name of each species; and he considered that, if this plan were adopted, five or more species could (on the average) be easily got into one page: at which rate each volume would consist of about 500 pages. He thought that an appropriate title for such a work would be 'Avium Viventium Expositio Systematica'; the short title being 'Aves,' formed by the initial letters of these four words. The six volumes might be numbered I. to VI., but would have a second title according to the Region to which they related—Aves Palæarcticæ, Aves Æthiopicæ, &c. The compilation of each volume should be assigned to an ornithological expert qualified to undertake the particular task.

A DISCUSSION followed on Dr. Sclater's proposed scheme, of which Dr. Günther expressed approval. Dr. Bowdler Sharpe stated that he would like to consider the question further before it was proposed to the B. O. U. in May, and stated that he had promised to contribute to the volumes of the 'Thierreich,' which Dr. Schultze was proposing to publish in Berlin. The Chairman pointed out that the scope of his proposed work was entirely different from that of the 'Thierreich.'

Mr. F. E. BLAAUW exhibited an egg of *Psophia leucoptera* which had been laid in his aviaries at s'Graveland during the past summer. This was believed to be the first opportunity afforded to ornithologists of knowing what the egg of *Psophia* was like, and it was interesting to find that the Trumpeter laid a pure white egg.

Dr. DREWITT exhibited a specimen of the Senegal Stone-Curlew (*Ædicnemus senegalensis*) which he had shot near Assouan in Upper Egypt.

Mr. G. H. CATON HAIG exhibited a specimen of the Water-Pipit (*Anthus spipoletta*) killed in Lincolnshire during the past autumn.

Mr. W. B. TEGETMEIER exhibited some of the down of the King Penguin (*Aptenodytes pennanti*), from specimens now living in the Zoological Society's Gardens.

The next Meeting of the Club will take place on Wednesday, the 19th of February, at the Restaurant Frascati, 32 Oxford Street: the dinner at 7 P.M.

(Signed) .

P. L. SCLATER,	R. BOWDLER SHARPE,	HOWARD SAUNDERS,
<i>Chairman.</i>	<i>Editor.</i>	<i>Sec. & Treas.</i>

N.B.—At the Meeting of the Club on Wednesday, March 18th, it is proposed to have an exhibition of the eggs of *Cuculus canorus*, with those of the foster-parents. Any Member willing to exhibit his series is requested to write to Mr. EDWARD BIDWELL, 1 Trig Lane, Upper Thames Street, London, E.C.

BULLETIN
OF THE
BRITISH ORNITHOLOGISTS' CLUB.

No. XXXIII.

THE thirty-second meeting of the Club was held at the Restaurant Frascati, 32 Oxford Street, on Wednesday, the 19th of February, 1896.

Chairman: P. L. SCLATER, F.R.S.

Members present:—O. V. APLIN, G. BARRETT-HAMILTON, E. BIDWELL, W. E. DE WINTON, E. A. S. ELLIOT, H. J. ELWES, W. GRAHAM, E. HARTERT, Lt.-Col. L. H. IRBY, A. H. MACPHERSON, J. G. MILLAIS, E. NEALE, R. NESHAM, W. R. OGILVIE-GRANT, C. E. PEARSON, FRANK PENROSE, Major R. G. WARDLAW-RAMSEY, HOWARD SAUNDERS (*Treasurer*), Capt. G. E. SHELLEY, W. B. TEGETMEIER, A. TREVOR-BATTYE, H. M. WALLIS, J. YOUNG.

Visitors: E. GARNET MAN, COLCHESTER WEMYSS.

Mr. E. A. S. ELLIOT exhibited some interesting skins of North-American birds; amongst others, specimens of the various southern and northern forms of *Bubo virginianus*; *Megascops flammeola* from Colorado, said to belong to the first clutch of eggs sent to the Smithsonian Institution; *Sphyrapicus thyroideus* (both sexes), two examples of *Falco richardsoni*; and a *Xema sabinii* in breeding-plumage, remarkable as having been obtained in Colorado.

Mr. H. M. WALLIS exhibited three eggs laid by a Golden Eagle (*Aquila chrysaetus*), which had been about thirty years in confinement, and began to lay eggs about fifteen years ago.

[February 29th, 1896.]

The eggs having been taken and those of a Domestic Fowl substituted, the Eagle hatched three of the latter and reared three fine birds, feeding them principally on the flesh of rats. One of these fowls, a cockerel, was slain by his foster-mother for taking undue liberties; but the others have thriven. A photograph was exhibited, showing the Eagle and the fowls.

A letter addressed to Dr. Bowdler Sharpe by Count SALVADORI was read, in which he called attention to the differences of plumage exhibited by a series of *Diphyllodes* recently received by him from S.E. New Guinea. He proposed to divide them as follows:—

I. Capite fusco-griseo, minimè rufescente.

- | | |
|---------------------------|----------------------------|
| a. Alis ochraceis | 1. <i>D. magnifica</i> . |
| b. Alis lætè flavis | 2. <i>D. seleucides</i> . |
| c. Alis aurantiacis | 3. <i>D. chrysoptera</i> . |

II. Capite rufescenti-brunneo.

- | | |
|--------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| d. Alis lætè flavis | 4. <i>D. xanthoptera</i> , sp. n. |
| e. Alis lætè aurantiacis | 5. <i>D. hunsteini</i> . |

MR. HOWARD SAUNDERS made some remarks on his arrangement of the Order *Gaviæ* in vol. xxv. of the 'British Museum Catalogue.' He divided the Order into two Families:—LARIDÆ, containing Terns, Skimmers, and Gulls; STERCORARIIDÆ, for the Skuas. Besides the well-known cere to the bill, the latter possess some important distinctive features, which have been overlooked by most naturalists except Dr. E. Coues—*e. g.* the sternum has only *one* notch on each side of the posterior margin; the cæca are much larger than in the Laridæ; and the fully webbed toes are furnished with strong, sharp, hooked claws.

In his treatment of the subfamily Sterninæ he had felt obliged to admit a few more genera than he did in his revision in the P. Z. S. for 1876. To *Hydrochelidon* (the Marsh Terns) succeed *Phaethusa* (the heavy-billed River Tern of tropical America), *Gelochelidon* (the Gull-billed Tern), *Hydroprogne* (the Caspian Tern), *Seena* (the Indian River Tern), *Sterna* (for 33 species, commencing with *S. melanogaster*, including the Sooty Terns, and ending with *S. trudeaui*), *Nania* (for the Inca Tern), *Procelsterna* (for the

two small Grey Noddies), *Larus* (for the large Noddies), *Micranous* (for the small Slender-billed Noddies), and *Gygis* (for the 2 aberrant White Terns): 11 genera, 51 species. The American Black Tern (*Hydrochelidon surinamensis*) is admitted to specific rank; *Sterna saundersi*, Hume, is the proper name for the species provisionally called *S. sumatrana* in 1876; *Sterna lorata* is the name for the small Tern from the south-west of America, previously known as *S. exilis* of Tschudi, the type of *S. exilis* in the Neuchâtel Museum having proved to be *H. surinamensis*.

In the subfamily Rhynchopinae—with only one genus, *Rhynchops*—five species are admitted. Three of these are found in America, one in Africa, and one in India. That the species found in Africa is far closer to the south-east American species than it is to the Indian will excite no surprise.

The subfamily Larinae contained 7 genera:—*Xema*, for 2 species of Fork-tailed Gulls; *Rhodostethia*, for 1 species of Wedge-tailed Gull; *Larus* (44 species); *Gabianus*, for the large Australian Gull, *G. pacificus*, with a very deep bill; *Leucophaeus*, for *L. scoresbii*; *Pagophila*, for the Ivory Gull; and *Rissa*, for the two species of Kittiwake.

In the family STERCORARIIDÆ, the large Skuas were placed in the genus *Megalestris* (*M. catarrhactes*, &c.), while the three species with elongated central tail-feathers were retained under the genus *Stercorarius*.

Mr. SCLATER exhibited some bird-skins from a collection sent to him for examination by Mr. J. J. Quelch, of the Museum, Georgetown, British Guiana, and called special attention to a fine adult male specimen of *Caprimulgus maculicaudus* (Lawr.) (Hartert, Cat. B. xvi. p. 575), and to an example of *Nyctiprogne leucopygia* (Spix), being the first specimens he had met with of these species from British Guiana. The two specimens of *C. maculicaudus* in the British Museum were both females, Mr. Hartert having described the male from an example in Graf v. Berlepsch's collection.

Mr. SCLATER called attention to the completion and

publication of the first volume of Capt. Shelley's work on African birds. The present volume contained a systematic list of the birds of the Ethiopian Region, 2534 in number, with their localities and references to the 'British Museum Catalogue' and to other descriptions and figures.

Dr. BOWDLER SHARPE communicated a description of a new Lark from the collection made by Dr. Donaldson Smith during his recent expedition to Lake Rudolph:—

MIRAFRA COLLARIS, sp. n.

M. rectricibus externis extus fulvo marginatis: notæo saturatè cinnamomeo, dorsi plumis albo latè marginatis: supracaudalibus et rectricibus mediis cinereis, nigro medialiter striolatis: subtus fulvescens: hypochondriis cinnamomeis: remigibus subtus nigris, vix ad basin rufis, pogonio interno minimè isabellino: gulâ isabellinâ: fasciâ nigrâ gutturali insigni, et præpectore cinnamomeo maculato distinguenda. Long. tot. 6·0 poll., culm. 0·5, alæ 3·5, caudæ 3·2, tarsi 0·95.

Mr. O. SALVIN, F.R.S., communicated the following description of a new species of Humming-bird from Northern Peru, which he called

AGLÆACTIS ALICLÆ.

Supra fusco-nigra, dorso postico nitide amethystino; tectricibus supracaudalibus nitide viridescentibus, duabus longissimis amethystinis: alis et cauda saturate cupreis, harum remigis externi pogonio externo et rhachide albis, hujus triente basali alba, rhachidibus in dimidio basali albis: loris, mento, pectore medio, plumis elongatis pectoralibus et tectricibus subcaudalibus albis; gutture medio, pectoris lateralibus et hypochondriis nigricantibus, plumis omnibus stricte pallide limbatis; abdomine medio albicante, subalaribus albis: rostro nigro, mandibulæ basi flavicante; pedibus nigris. Long. tota circa 4·8 poll., alæ 3·4, caudæ rectr. med. 1·5, rectr. lat. 1·8, rostri a rictu 0·9.

♀ mari similis, coloribus omnibus minus nitidis.

Hab. Suecha, N. Peru, alt. 10,000 feet (O. T. Baron).

Obs. In March of last year Mr. Baron was fortunate enough to meet with this beautiful new *Aglæactis* at a place

called Suecha, in the Andes of Northern Peru, at an elevation of 10,000 feet above sea-level. He obtained several specimens of both sexes, some of which he sent to Mr. Godman and others to Mr. Rothschild.

The most nearly allied species is *A. castelnaudi*, from which *A. aliciae* may readily be distinguished by the following characters:—the brilliant smoky-brown feathers of the lower back and upper tail-coverts instead of being uniform in colour are interrupted across the base of the tail by a bar of green feathers, they are, moreover, of a redder tint; the tail is dark coppery, and the base of the shafts white; there is a very distinct white patch on the throat and chin, and the outer web of the outermost primary and the under tail-coverts are also white. The white pectoral tuft is composed of short small feathers.

Mr. W. B. TEGETMEIER exhibited an egg of a Domestic Fowl, of an abnormally warm brown colour with darker spots.

The next Meeting of the Club will take place at the Restaurant Frascati, 32 Oxford Street, on Wednesday, March 18th, when there will be an exhibition of the eggs of *Cuculus canorus* with those of the foster-parents. Early notice to the Treasurer is requested from those Members who intend to *dine* and bring guests, as a large attendance is expected, and places cannot be guaranteed after the 15th of March.

(Signed)

P. L. SCLATER,	R. BOWDLER SHARPE,	HOWARD SAUNDERS,
Chairman.	Editor.	Sec. & Treas.

BULLETIN

OF THE

BRITISH ORNITHOLOGISTS' CLUB.

No. XXXIV.

THE Thirty-third meeting of the Club was held at the Restaurant Frascati, 32 Oxford Street, on Wednesday, the 18th of March, 1896.

Chairman : P. L. SCLATER, F.R.S.

Members present :—G. BARRETT-HAMILTON, E. BIDWELL, Col. C. T. BINGHAM, J. H. BONHOTE, W. E. DE WINTON, A. DOWSETT, H. E. DRESSER, H. J. ELWES, A. H. EVANS, J. GERRARD, W. GRAHAM, W. R. OGILVIE GRANT, ERNST HARTERT, J. E. HARTING, P. M. C. KERMODE, Major A. P. LOYD, A. McL. MARSHALL, JAS. McL. MARSHALL, E. NEALE, R. NESHAM, HEATLEY NOBLE, F. MENTEITH OGILVIE, C. E. PEARSON, H. J. PEARSON, F. PENROSE, R. H. READ, Capt. SAVILE G. REID, Hon. CHAS. ROTHSCHILD, Hon. WALTER ROTHSCHILD, HOWARD SAUNDERS (*Treasurer*), R. BOWDLER SHARPE (*Editor*), CHARLES STONHAM, E. PRIAULX TENNANT, Major HORACE TERRY, H. M. WALLIS, C. B. WHARTON, JOHNSON WILKINSON, C. A. WRIGHT, Col. J. W. YERBURY, JOHN YOUNG.

Dining Visitors : J. W. CASTLE, W. E. CHAPMAN, Capt. A. COWIE, D. G. ELLIOT, GEORGE EVANS, C. H. FREEMAN, W. E. GRAHAM, H. OGILVIE GRANT, E. S. GROGAN, DONALDSON GUNN, JONATHAN HUTCHINSON, F.R.S., Col. F. W. JAMES, HERBERT MASSEY, HENRY MUNT, JOHN A. NORTON, M.D., GEO. PARKIN, T. PERKINS, H. STEVENS, W. MURRAY TUKE, W. F. URWICK, Dr. O. WOOD.

A number of visitors also attended the Meeting at 8.30.

March 31st, 1896.]

Dr. BOWDLER SHARPE exhibited one of the volumes of original paintings of Woodpeckers, executed by the late Mr. Edward Hargitt. The total number of coloured figures was 1368, and on this stupendous task Mr. Hargitt had been engaged for more than fourteen years. The pictures,—said Dr. Sharpe,—as will be seen by the volume exhibited, represent the males, females, and young birds, as well as all the intermediate plumages and variations, which Mr. Hargitt had been able to paint from the specimens in his own collection and those in the public museums and private collections of the world. Considering that for many years he had suffered from indifferent health, and was engaged throughout the time on his own professional work, it was really a wonderful example of human energy to have produced such a series of beautiful paintings of Woodpeckers. Nearly 100 typical specimens were illustrated in the series, and many of them were of great interest, as not having been figured in any public work.

The MS. letterpress, which had been entirely written out by Miss Hargitt, contained 1489 original descriptions, all of them carefully copied from the works in which they had appeared. The work, as completed, formed 14 stout 8vo volumes.

Dr. Sharpe had been carefully through the collection of Woodpeckers left by his late friend and he found that this collection was one of very great importance, containing 3538 specimens, representing 289 species, with 22 types.

The collection contained examples of several species not in the British Museum nor in any other collection, and there could be no doubt that in Mr. Hargitt's series would be found the material for a complete Monograph of the Picidæ, which could be rendered still more perfect by a study of the fourteen volumes of paintings of Woodpeckers which had been executed by Mr. Hargitt. These volumes also contained a number of original observations and corrections to Mr. Hargitt's work in the 'Catalogue of Birds.' In conclusion, Dr. Sharpe expressed a hope that this beautiful collection would find a resting-place in some public or private museum, where it would be fully appreciated, so that the original work

of its late possessor would receive the acknowledgment which so many years of patient labour demanded.

Mr. SCLATER stated that he was informed by Capt. S. Pasfield Oliver that the latter was about to publish a translation of the Journal of "Le Sieur D. B.," from a copy of this rare volume in the possession of Prof. Newton, at Cambridge. Mr. Sclater exhibited the Zoological Society's MS. copy of this book, which was formerly in possession of the late Charles Telfair, C.M.Z.S. The work was most interesting to ornithologists as containing an account by an eye-witness in 1671 of the plumage and habits of the "Solitaire" or Dodo of Bourbon (*Pezophaps solitarius*). It was now known that the name of the author of the volume was Du Bois, and that it was published in Paris in 1674. (Cf. Newton, Trans. Zool. Soc. vi. p. 374.)

Mr. E. BIDWELL invited the members to the Upper Hall, where an exhibition of Cuckoos' eggs and those of the foster-parents had been prepared; but before the adjournment for that purpose, he made a few remarks as to the scope of the present exhibition. He also drew attention to the important difference in the weight of the Cuckoo's egg when compared with that of the majority of those of their foster-parents. By their much heavier weight the eggs of the Cuckoo could nearly always be distinguished. 150 eggs in his own collection, measured and weighed by him, gave the following results:—

Longest egg	24·50 millimètres.
Shortest egg	19·50 ,,
Broadest egg ...	18·75 ,,
Narrowest egg ...	14·50 ,,
Largest egg	23·50 × 18·75 millimètres.
Smallest egg ...	19·50 × 14·50 ,,
Heaviest egg ...	31·2 milligrammes.
Next heaviest egg	27·9 ,,
Lightest egg ...	14·1 ,,
Next lightest egg	14·7 ,,

The Members of the B. O. C. who exhibited specimens of eggs were as follows :—

	Cuckoos'.	Fosterers'.
E. BIDWELL	158	49
P. CROWLEY	71	37
H. E. DRESSER	17	13
E. A. S. ELLIOT	9	6
W. GRAHAM	7	5
J. A. HARVIE-BROWN	3	1
H. J. PEARSON	12	2
F. PENROSE	19	11
ROBERT H. READ	36	25
SAVILE G. REID	46	29
C. ROTHSCHILD	3	2
W. ROTHSCHILD	99	24
C. STONHAM	16	10

The following gentlemen, non-members of the B. O. C., had kindly sent :—

	Cuckoos'.	Fosterers'.
W. M. CROWFOOT	22	13
H. MASSEY	275	50
J. A. NORTON	126	30

The total number of eggs of the Cuckoo exhibited was 919, and the accompanying clutches of eggs represented 76 species of foster-parents.

Mr. E. HARTERT, at Mr. Bidwell's request, had prepared a few notes on the recent observations of Dr. E. REY, and read the following remarks :—

“The majority of ornithologists had been of opinion that *Cuculus canorus* lays only a small number of eggs, *i. e.* 5 to 7 or so, and that a number of days (a week or so) passes between the laying of one egg and its follower. The work of Dr. E. Rey ‘*Altes und neues aus dem Haushalte des Kuckuks, 1892*,’ supposing his observations to be correct, exploded these theories entirely. Dr. Rey came to many definite conclusions, of which the following were the most important ones :—

- "1. The eggs of *Cuculus canorus* vary more in colour and markings than those of any other bird.
- "2. The most important characters of the eggs of *Cuculus canorus* are their form, the weight of their shells, and above all their thickness and hardness.
- "3. The majority of the eggs of *Cuculus canorus* resemble in colour and markings the type of one of our common Passerine Birds; while some show a kind of mixed type ('Mischtypus'), and some do not exactly resemble any known eggs.
- "4. The eggs laid in the nests of *Ruticilla phænicurus* and *Fringilla montifringilla* are nearly always like those of the nest-owners in colour and markings (57 out of 67 in those of the former, and all in those of the latter). Imitations are also common in nests of *Sylvia cinerea*, *Sylvia hortensis*, *Acrocephalus streperus*, and *A. phragmitis*, while they are rare in others, and never yet found in nests of *Troglodytes parvulus*, *Accentor modularis*, and the different *Phylloscopi*. In most countries it may be said that there are many more Cuckoos' eggs which do not imitate those of other birds than there are successful imitations.
- "5. Most Cuckoos are in the habit of placing their eggs in nests of one species of bird, and take to other nests only if they cannot find their habitual nests.
- "6. They use, as a rule, one and the same district (mostly very limited) for depositing their eggs year after year.
- "7. Neither the ovary nor the development of the eggs of the Cuckoos differ in any way from those of other birds.
- "8. The female Cuckoo lays about 20 eggs every year, and these are laid on alternate days.
- "9. Each female Cuckoo lays similar eggs during its life.
- "10. Each female lays only one egg in one nest. If more than one be found they invariably belong to different females.
- "11. The time when the females lay varies greatly.
- "12. The female removes, in most cases (but not always), some of the eggs of the nest-owners."

After some remarks by several of the members, a hearty vote of thanks to Mr. BIDWELL for the trouble he had taken in organizing the present exhibition was proposed by Mr. Howard Saunders, and carried by acclamation.

The following list, prepared by Mr. BIDWELL, was laid before the Meeting :—

LIST OF
WESTERN PALÆARCTIC SPECIES
IN THE NEST OF WHICH
THE CUCKOO'S EGG HAS BEEN FOUND.

[The figures refer to the number of specimens of Cuckoos' eggs exhibited.]

1	MISTLE-THRUSH.	<i>Turdus viscivorus</i> , Linn.
1	SONG-THRUSH.	<i>Turdus musicus</i> , Linn.
	FIELDFARE.	<i>Turdus pilaris</i> , Linn.
2	BLACKBIRD.	<i>Turdus merula</i> , Linn.
2	RING-OUZEL.	<i>Turdus torquatus</i> , Linn.
	ROCK-THRUSH.	<i>Monticola saxatilis</i> (Linn.).
8	WHEATEAR.	<i>Saxicola ænanthe</i> (Linn.).
1	ISABELLINE WHEATEAR.	<i>Saxicola isabellina</i> , Rüppell.
1	BLACK-THROATED WHEAT- EAR.	<i>Saxicola stapazina</i> , Vieillot.
	EASTERN BLACK-THROATED CHAT.	<i>Saxicola melanoleuca</i> (Güld.).
	EARED WHEATEAR.	<i>Saxicola albicollis</i> (Vieillot).
1	EASTERN PIED WHEATEAR.	<i>Saxicola morio</i> , Ehrenb.
9	WHINCHAT.	<i>Pratincola rubetra</i> (Linn.).
7	STONECHAT.	<i>Pratincola rubicola</i> (Linn.).
	WHITE-TAILED STONECHAT.	<i>Pratincola hemprichi</i> (Ehrenb.).
24	REDSTART.	<i>Ruticilla phænicururus</i> (Linn.).
1	BLACK REDSTART.	<i>Ruticilla titys</i> (Scop.).
1	BLUETHROAT.	<i>Cyanecula suecica</i> (Linn.).
	WHITE-SPOTTED BLUE- THROAT.	<i>Cyanecula leucocyanea</i> , Brehm.
65	REDBREAST.	<i>Erithacus rubecula</i> (Linn.).

2 NIGHTINGALE.	<i>Daulias lusciniæ</i> (Linn.).
THRUSH-NIGHTINGALE.	<i>Daulias philomela</i> (Bechst.).
38 WHITETHROAT.	<i>Sylvia cinerea</i> , Bechst.
12 LESSER WHITETHROAT.	<i>Sylvia curruca</i> (Linn.).
BLACK-HEADED WARBLER.	<i>Sylvia melanocephala</i> (Gm.).
3 ORPHEAN WARBLER.	<i>Sylvia orphea</i> , Temm.
33 BLACKCAP.	<i>Sylvia atricapilla</i> (Linn.).
47 GARDEN-WARBLER.	<i>Sylvia hortensis</i> , Bechst.
2 SUBALPINE WARBLER.	<i>Sylvia subalpina</i> , Bechst.
SPECTACLED WARBLER.	<i>Sylvia conspicillata</i> , Marm.
13 BARRED WARBLER.	<i>Sylvia nisoria</i> (Bechst.).
2 DARTFORD WARBLER.	<i>Sylvia undata</i> (Bodd.).
1 GOLDEN-CRESTED WREN.	<i>Regulus cristatus</i> , K. L. Koch.
1 FIRE-CRESTED WREN.	<i>Regulus ignicapillus</i> (C. L. Brehm).
10 CHIFFCHAFF.	<i>Phylloscopus rufus</i> (Bechst.).
10 WILLOW-WREN.	<i>Phylloscopus trochilus</i> (Linn.).
BONELLI'S WARBLER.	<i>Phylloscopus bonellii</i> (Vieill.).
4 WOOD-WREN.	<i>Phylloscopus sibilatrix</i> (Bechst.).
GREY-TAILED WARBLER.	<i>Ædon familiaris</i> (Ménét.).
4 ICTERINE WARBLER.	<i>Hypolais icterina</i> (Vieillot).
MELODIOUS WARBLER.	<i>Hypolais polyglotta</i> (Vieillot).
1 BOOTED WARBLER.	<i>Hypolais caligata</i> (Licht.).
62 REED-WARBLER.	<i>Acrocephalus streperus</i> (Vieillot).
35 MARSH-WARBLER.	<i>Acrocephalus palustris</i> (Bechst.).
7 GREAT REED-WARBLER.	<i>Acrocephalus turdoides</i> (Meyer).
41 SEDGE-WARBLER.	<i>Acrocephalus phragmitis</i> (Bechst.).
3 AQUATIC WARBLER.	<i>Acrocephalus aquaticus</i> (J. F. Gmelin).
PADDY-FIELD WARBLER.	<i>Acrocephalus agricola</i> (Jerdon).
7 GRASSHOPPER WARBLER.	<i>Locustella naevia</i> (Bodd.).
2 RIVER-WARBLER.	<i>Locustella fluviatilis</i> (M. & W.).
CETTI'S WARBLER.	<i>Potamodus cetti</i> (Marm.).
74 HEDGE-SPARROW.	<i>Accentor modularis</i> (Linn.).
ALPINE ACCENTOR.	<i>Accentor collaris</i> (Scop.).
DIPPER.	<i>Cinclus aquaticus</i> , Bechst.
1 GREAT TITMOUSE.	<i>Parus major</i> , Linn.
23 WREN.	<i>Troglodytes parvulus</i> , K. L. Koch.
2 TREE-CREEPER.	<i>Certhia familiaris</i> , Linn.

34	PIED WAGTAIL.	<i>Motacilla lugubris</i> , Temm.
32	WHITE WAGTAIL.	<i>Motacilla alba</i> , Linn.
4	GREY WAGTAIL.	<i>Motacilla melanope</i> , Pallas.
16	BLUE-HEADED WAGTAIL.	<i>Motacilla flava</i> , Linn.
3	BLACK-HEADED YELLOW WAGTAIL.	<i>Motacilla viridis</i> , Gmelin.
12	YELLOW WAGTAIL.	<i>Motacilla raii</i> (Bonaparte).
33	TREE-PIBIT.	<i>Anthus trivialis</i> (Linn.).
49	MEADOW-PIBIT.	<i>Anthus pratensis</i> (Linn.).
	RED-THROATED PIPIT.	<i>Anthus cervinus</i> (Pallas).
2	TAWNY PIPIT.	<i>Anthus campestris</i> (Linn.).
	RICHARD'S PIPIT.	<i>Anthus richardi</i> , Vieillot.
	WATER-PIBIT.	<i>Anthus spioletta</i> (Linn.).
2	ROCK-PIBIT.	<i>Anthus obscurus</i> (Latham).
	GOLDEN ORIOLE.	<i>Oriolus galbula</i> , Linn.
	GREAT GREY SHRIKE.	<i>Lanius excubitor</i> , Linn.
1	LESSER GREY SHRIKE.	<i>Lanius minor</i> , J. F. Gmelin.
	ISABELLINE SHRIKE.	<i>Lanius isabellinus</i> , Ehrenb.
25	RED-BACKED SHRIKE.	<i>Lanius collurio</i> , Linn.
5	WOODCHAT.	<i>Lanius pomeranus</i> , Sparman.
12	SPOTTED FLYCATCHER.	<i>Muscicapa grisola</i> , Linn.
1	PIED FLYCATCHER.	<i>Muscicapa atricapilla</i> , Linn.
2	SWALLOW.	<i>Hirundo rustica</i> , Linn.
	MARTIN.	<i>Chelidon urbica</i> (Linn.).
14	GREENFINCH.	<i>Ligurinus chloris</i> (Linn.).
	HAWFINCH.	<i>Coccothraustes vulgaris</i> , Pallas.
	GOLDFINCH.	<i>Carduelis elegans</i> , Stephens.
1	SERIN.	<i>Serinus hortulanus</i> , K. L. Koch.
3	HOUSE-SPARROW.	<i>Passer domesticus</i> (Linn.).
2	TREE-SPARROW.	<i>Passer montanus</i> (Linn.).
11	CHAFFINCH.	<i>Fringilla cœlebs</i> , Linn.
1	BRAMBLING.	<i>Fringilla montifringilla</i> , Linn.
	SNOWFINCH.	<i>Montifringilla nivalis</i> (Linn.).
15	LINNET.	<i>Acanthis cannabina</i> (Linn.).
	MEALY REDPOLE.	<i>Acanthis linaria</i> (Linn.).
	LESSER REDPOLE.	<i>Acanthis rufescens</i> (Vieillot).
7	TWITE.	<i>Acanthis flavirostris</i> (Linn.).
3	BULLFINCH.	<i>Pyrrhula europæa</i> , Vieillot.
	NORTHERN BULLFINCH.	<i>Pyrrhula major</i> , Brehm.
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2	CORN-BUNTING.	<i>Emberiza miliaria</i> , Linn.

23	YELLOW BUNTING.	<i>Emberiza citrinella</i> , Linn.
1	MEADOW-BUNTING.	<i>Emberiza cia</i> , Linn.
2	CIRL BUNTING.	<i>Emberiza cirrus</i> , Linn.
	YELLOW-BREASTED BUNTING.	<i>Emberiza aureola</i> , Pallas.
2	ORTOLAN.	<i>Emberiza hortulana</i> , Linn.
16	REED-BUNTING.	<i>Emberiza schænielus</i> , Linn.
	LAPLAND BUNTING.	<i>Calcarius lapponicus</i> (Linn.).
	STARLING.	<i>Sturnus vulgaris</i> , Linn.
	JAY.	<i>Garrulus glandarius</i> (Linn.).
	MAGPIE.	<i>Pica rustica</i> (Scopoli).
	JACKDAW.	<i>Corvus monedula</i> , Linn.
7	SKY-LARK.	<i>Alauda arvensis</i> , Linn.
2	WOOD-LARK.	<i>Alauda arborea</i> , Linn.
2	CRESTED LARK.	<i>Alauda cristata</i> , Linn.
	SHORT-TOED LARK.	<i>Alauda brachydactyla</i> , Leisler.
	WHITE-WINGED LARK.	<i>Alauda sibirica</i> , J. F. Gmelin.
	DESERT-LARK.	<i>Ammomanes deserti</i> (Licht.).
	GREEN WOODPECKER.	<i>Gecinus viridis</i> (Linn.).
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	STOCK-DOVE.	<i>Columba ænas</i> , Linn.
	TURTLE-DOVE.	<i>Turtur communis</i> , Selby.
	LITTLE GREBE.	<i>Podiceps fluviatilis</i> (Tunstall).

The next Meeting of the Club will take place on Wednesday, the 15th of April, at the Restaurant Frascati, 32 Oxford Street: the dinner at 7 P.M.

(Signed)

P. L. SCLATER,	R. BOWDLER SHARPE,	HOWARD SAUNDERS,
Chairman.	Editor.	Sec. & Treas.

BULLETIN

OF THE

BRITISH ORNITHOLOGISTS' CLUB.

No. XXIV.

THE thirty-fourth meeting of the Club was held at the Restaurant Frascati, 32 Oxford Street, on Wednesday, the 15th of April, 1896.

Chairman: PHILIP CROWLEY.

Members present:—E. BIDWELL, W. CHAMBERLAIN, STEPHENSON, R. CLARKE, W. R. OGILVIE GRANT, E. HARTERT, Major A. P. LOYD, J. G. MILLAIS, R. NESHAM, HEATLEY NOBLE, H. J. PEARSON, T. DIGBY FIGOTT, C.B., Hon. WALTER ROTHSCHILD, Hon. N. CHARLES ROTHSCHILD, HOWARD SAUNDERS (*Treasurer*), R. BOWDLER SHARPE (*Editor*), H. M. WALLIS, JOHNSON WILKINSON, C. A. WRIGHT, JOHN YOUNG.

Visitors: BOYD ALEXANDER, A. CHOLMONDELEY, BERTRAM DANFORD, R.E., N. H. JOY, C. M. DIGBY FIGOTT, H. STEVENS.

Mr. HOWARD SAUNDERS exhibited a specimen of *Oceanodroma cryptoleucura* from the collection of Mr. Boyd Alexander. The bird in question was picked up dead on the beach at Littlestone, in Kent, on the 5th of December, 1895, and was seen in the flesh by Mr. Alexander. This was the first instance of the occurrence of the species in Great Britain.

Dr. BOWDLER SHARPE exhibited a specimen of the Icterine Warbler (*Hypolais icterina*), obtained near Wells, in Norfolk, by Mr. N. H. JOY.

[April 29th, 1896.]

Mr. WALTER CHAMBERLAIN exhibited photographs of some interesting birds which he had living in confinement, one of them being an Australian Crane, which had walked with a wooden leg for the past few years. He also showed some interesting examples of radiography taken by himself.

The Hon. WALTER ROTHSCHILD exhibited specimens of his new species, *Astrapia splendidissima*, and of the three known species of *Amblyornis*.

Mr. E. BIDWELL exhibited, by the kind permission of Mr. Henry Stevens, an egg of the Great Auk (*Alca impennis*). This egg was purchased on the 23rd of May, 1841, from F. Schultz, of Dresden, by Hugh Reid, of Doncaster, who sold it in the same year to the late Mr. James Hack Tuke, of Hitchin, in whose collection it had remained up to the present time.

Mr. ERNST HARTERT pointed out the differences between the Masked Grosbeak of Japan (*Eophona personata*) and the form found in Amur-land, and exhibited specimens of both races. He proposed to call the Siberian form

EOPHONA PERSONATA MAGNIROSTRIS, subsp. n.

Similis *E. personata*, ex insulis Japonicis, sed rostro multo majore (maris culm. 29 mm. nec 22), scapularibus uropygioque grisescentioribus distinguenda.

Dr. BOWDLER SHARPE made some remarks on recent papers by Dr. J. A. Allen and Mr. Frank M. Chapman on the changes of colour in the plumage of birds without moult. Dr. Allen especially disagreed with the conclusions put forward by the late Edward Blyth and other English and German naturalists. As regarded the points in which Dr. Allen differed from the conclusions of Dr. Sharpe, the latter reaffirmed his conviction on the subject, and could not endorse Dr. Allen's views.

A discussion followed, in which the Hon. WALTER ROTHSCHILD, Mr. HOWARD SAUNDERS, Mr. JOHN YOUNG, Mr.

HARTERT, and others took part, but, owing to the lateness of the hour, the debate was adjourned until the next meeting of the Club on May 20th, when Mr. OGILVIE GRANT, Mr. J. G. MILLAIS, Dr. BOWDLER SHARPE, the Hon. WALTER ROTH-SCHILD, and other ornithologists, have promised to bring specimens to illustrate their opinions on the subject.

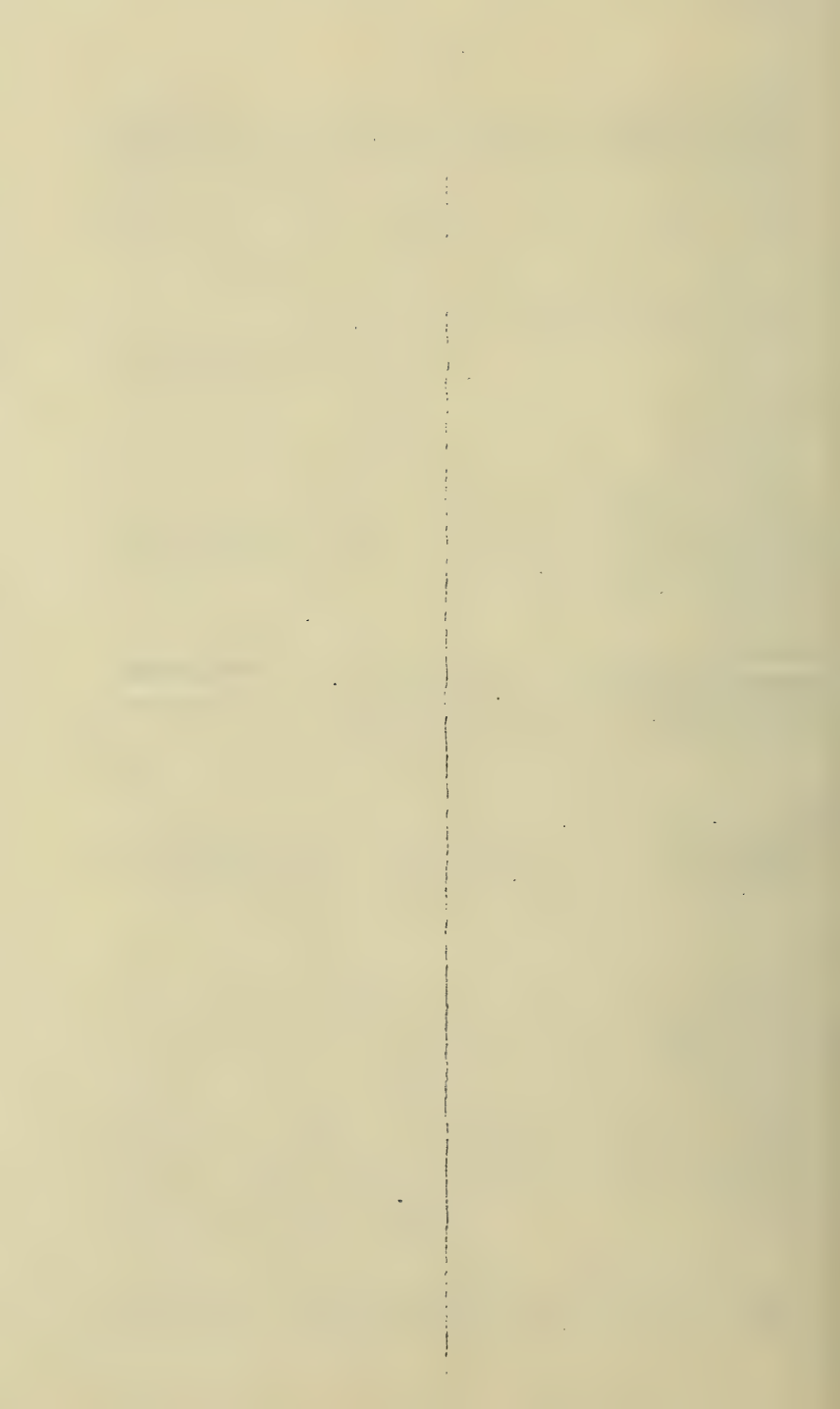
Mr. PHILIP CROWLEY moved a resolution of sympathy with Count Salvadori, an universally esteemed member of the B.O.C., in the long and painful illness from which he was suffering.

The next Meeting of the Club will take place at the Restaurant Frascati, 32 Oxford Street, on Wednesday, May 20th : the dinner at 7 P.M.

Members who intend to *dine* are requested to give the usual notice to Mr. E. BIDWELL, 1 Trig Lane, Upper Thames Street, E.C., who has kindly undertaken some of the duties of the Treasurer during his absence in Spain.—H. S.

(Signed)

PHILIP CROWLEY,	R. BOWDLER SHARPE,	HOWARD SAUNDERS,
<i>Chairman.</i>	<i>Editor.</i>	<i>Sec. & Treas.</i>



BULLETIN

OF THE

BRITISH ORNITHOLOGISTS' CLUB.

No. XXXVI.

THE thirty-fifth meeting of the Club was held at the Restaurant Frascati, 32 Oxford Street, on Wednesday, the 20th of May, 1896.

Chairman: P. L. SCLATER, F.R.S.

Members present:—E. BIDWELL, PHILIP CROWLEY, W. E. DE WINTON, J. H. GURNEY, ERNST HARTERT, J. G. MILLAIS, W. R. OGILVIE GRANT, F. PENROSE, A. B. R. TREVOR-BATTYE, C. A. WRIGHT.

A paper, illustrated by specimens, was read from Dr. E. A. S. ELLIOT, describing the seasonal changes of plumage in the Long-tailed Duck (*Harelda glacialis*). Dr. Elliot remarked as follows:—

“The seasonal change in this Duck is particularly interesting, in that the species differs from most of the *Anatida* in having a complete summer plumage.

“This change is due to a complete moult of the pattern on the head, neck, and dorsal region in the male, and to a thorough moult in the female, excepting the white feathers of the belly and the wings. This moult takes place before the birds move northwards, and it is a change which we may suppose to bring it more in harmony with the surroundings

[May 30th, 1896.]

of its summer home. We notice, too, that this change is not confined to the male, but is also shared by the female, which becomes distinctly darker as the spring progresses.

"From February to the end of May, by which time the change of plumage is completed, the bird is in moult, the long sickle-shaped white scapulars being some of the last feathers to fall.

"This may be very well traced in the specimens exhibited, which have been obtained in the early months of the year. A typical deep-sea Duck, revelling in the green seas of the North Atlantic, and seldom approaching shore except in the breeding-season, it appears to follow that this change takes place simply to afford some protection from its traditional enemy, for of all the family this Duck nests in the most accessible places, near rivers and in swamps, on the ground, whereas others of the same family, *e. g.* the Golden-eye and the Harlequin, seek more secure nesting-sites. The Long-tailed Duck would undoubtedly, if not thus protected by a garb assimilating to the surroundings, be the prey of each and every animal in the Arctic region.

"It cannot be said that the change from the strikingly beautiful winter plumage to that of the more sombre garb of summer is one assumed with a view to attract the other sex, and the fact that it is only the upper part of the body that is moulted—the black feathers of the breast and white ones of the belly being retained as in winter—is further presumptive evidence that the change is one effected with the design of concealment. Moreover, in the Orkneys the birds are observed to have paired by April, whilst they are yet in winter plumage.

"The down which the female uses for lining her nest appears as a distinctly new growth on the breast and belly; it is very thick, and darker in colour than eider-down. The male supplies no down.

"This Duck certainly feeds on fish as well as on molluscs; for the stomachs of all those examined, without exception, contained fish-scales.

"The eyes pass from straw-colour in the winter dress

to dark hazel in summer. I have not noticed any with a red iris."

The discussion on Mr. J. A. ALLEN's recent paper on the changes of plumage in birds was resumed, and Mr. J. G. MILLAIS exhibited a series of *Harelda glacialis* showing the whole of the changes of the male from its winter plumage to the full breeding-dress. He also exhibited specimens of the Sanderling, the Selavonian Grebe, and the Ptarmigan, showing that in the two last-named species the change in plumage was effected by an absolute alteration in the pattern of the feather, and not by a moult.

Mr. W. R. OGILVIE GRANT supplemented the remarks of Mr. Millais by exhibiting a series of flank-feathers taken from female Red Grouse between the months of October and May, showing the alteration of the pattern month by month.

Mr. ERNST HARTERT also exhibited a series of Birds of Paradise, *Lophorhina*, *Diphyllodes*, &c., which showed a gradual change of pattern in the feather, without a moult.

A paper on the subject will be published later on in 'The Ibis,' in which Dr. BOWDLER SHARPE (who was unfortunately absent from the meeting through illness) will combat Mr. Allen's views on the subject of moulting. The verdict of the majority of the Members present at the meeting was that a change of pattern in the feathers of certain birds was absolutely certain.

Mr. E. W. DE WINTON gave some further notes on the changes of plumage undergone by the Wading-Birds in the Zoological Gardens; and the CHAIRMAN specially instanced the Spotted Redshank, which had recently gained its full summer plumage.

Mr. TREVOR-BATTYE described the nest and eggs of *Cygnus bewicki*, the nest being composed entirely of moss.

He also gave some details of the proposed exploration of Spitzbergen, in which he was about to take part.

Dr. R. BOWDLER SHARPE sent a description of two apparently new species of birds :—

CHIONARCHUS CROZETTENSIS.

C. similis C. minori, sed staturâ minore, pedibus (in exuvie) saturatè rubris, et rostri chlamyde minimè elevatâ vel tuberculatâ distinguendus. Long. tot. 14·0 poll., alæ 7·8, tarsi 1·75.

Hab. in Insulis Crozettensibus maris Atlantici.

GARRULUS OATESI, sp. n.

G. similis G. sinensi, sed facie laterali gulâque albis, et dorso cinerascete distinguendus. Long. tot. 13 poll., alæ 6·85.

Hab. in montibus Burmanicis “Chin” dictis.

The next Meeting of the Club will take place at the Restaurant Frascati, 32 Oxford Street, on Wednesday, June 17th : the dinner at 7 P.M.

(Signed)

P. L. SCLATER,
Chairman.

R. BOWDLER SHARPE,
Editor.

E. BIDWELL,
Act. Sec. & Treas.

BULLETIN

OF THE

BRITISH ORNITHOLOGISTS' CLUB.

No. XXXVII.

THE thirty-sixth Meeting of the Club was held at the Restaurant Frascati, 32 Oxford Street, on Wednesday, the 17th of June, 1896.

Chairman : P. L. SLATER, F.R.S.

Members present :—E. BIDWELL, Col. BINGHAM, W. E. DE WINTON, J. GERRARD, W. R. OGILVIE GRANT, ERNST HARTERT, R. NESHAM, HEATLEY NOBLE, R. LLOYD PATTERSON, C. E. PEARSON, H. J. PEARSON, F. PENROSE, Hon. N. C. ROTHSCHILD, Hon. W. ROTHSCHILD, HOWARD SAUNDERS (*Treasurer*), Rev. H. H. SLATER, LIONEL A. WILLIAMS.

Visitors : Rev. J. E. KELSALL, H. M. PHIPSON.

Mr. H. J. PEARSON exhibited some eggs of *Larus argentatus* from Northern Norway, suffused and blotched with salmon-pink or reddish buff, and also some of a pale blue colour. Specimens of the former character had previously been ascribed to the Great Black-backed Gull and to the Glaucous Gull, but the authenticity of the present examples was beyond question. Discussion followed on the cause, and allusion was made to reddish eggs of the Raven and other birds.

[June 26th, 1896.]

Mr. E. BIDWELL exhibited abnormal eggs of *Vanellus cristatus* and other species.

The Hon. WALTER ROTHSCHILD exhibited a handsome Pigeon from the island of Sumba, or Sandalwood, which he described as follows:—

PTILOPUS DOHERTYI, sp. nov.

Male adult. Head, sides of head, and throat white; occiput and nape bright magenta-purple: the nape-feathers rather long. Neck and breast very light peach-blossom-pink, feathers with basal half pure white. Mantle—including upper wing-coverts—dark olive, washed with green in some lights and with dark bluish purple in others. Wing dark slate-grey, outer webs strongly glossed with bright metallic purple. Rump and lower back greyish olive-green. Tail and longest upper tail-coverts bright reddish purple (dahlia-purple, Ridgway, pl. viii. fig. 2). Colour of abdomen separated from that of the breast by a yellowish-white semi-circular band; abdomen plum-purple. Flanks, vent, and thighs greenish grey, the last bordered with yellow; tarsi pale grey. Under tail-coverts primrose-yellow, with centres and most of inner webs greyish green. Tail below brownish ash colour. Beak blackish, anterior third pale orange; toes purplish pink. Wing 6·9 inches, tail 5·3, bill 0·7.

Hab. Sumba.

Coll. W. Doherty, Feb. 1893.

Mr. ROTHSCHILD further exhibited a fine series of Humming-birds, obtained in Peru and California by Mr. O. T. Baron, and mounted by him from the flesh. Amongst them were several examples of the remarkable racket-tailed *Loddigesia mirabilis* from Chachapoyas, once so rare in collections; also *Thaumastura coræ*, *Oreotrochilus stolzmanni*, and *Aylæactis aliciae*.

Mr. ERNST HARTERT stated that the Tring Museum had received some interesting collections made by Mr. Everett

in the islands of Djampoa and Halseo, between Celebes and Flores. A full account of these, with descriptions of some new species and subspecies, would appear in the forthcoming number of the 'Novitates Zoologicae'; meanwhile, as examples of the collections, specimens were exhibited of the rare *Oriolus bonerctensis*, Meyer, and *Trichoglossus forsteni*.

Mr. HARTERT also exhibited a new *Pachycephala* and a new *Pitta* collected by the well-known entomologist William Doherty on the island of Sumba, or Sandalwood. These he characterized as follows:—

PACHYCEPHALA FULVIVENTRIS, sp. nov.

Pachycephala speciei *P. fulvotincta* dictæ affinis, sed maris pectore abdomineque toto saturate aurantio-ochraceis, alis longioribus. ♀ simillima feminae speciei *P. fulvotincta* dictæ, alis longioribus, gutture albidiore, abdomine flavicantiore distinguenda. Al. ♂ 86·6, ♀ 84 mm., culm. 26, caud. 66·5.

Hab. Sumba.

PITTA MARIA, sp. nov.

Rather close to *Pitta irena*, Müll., but somewhat darker brown below, the black of the throat reaching lower down, the red colour in the middle of the abdomen evidently not mixed with black on its upper part, and the wing, instead of having a large white speculum on the outer six or seven primaries, is only ornamented with a small concealed spot of white on the fifth quill. Culm. 23 mm., wing 109, tars. 35·6.

Hab. Mountains of Sumba. Named in honour of Miss Maria de Korte.

Mr. HOWARD SAUNDERS gave a short account of a visit made by Col. H. W. Feilden and himself to the Pyrenees, chiefly the Eastern districts. Continuously unfavourable weather and heavy falls of soft snow hampered their movements, but they managed to obtain some interesting facts regarding distribution of birds. Inasmuch as Catalonia, the chief

province visited, is the most prosperous and highly cultivated portion of Spain, birds of prey and other conspicuous species could hardly be expected there, while the lagoons and swamps on the Gulf of Rosas, which make so brave a show on the map, are either drained and cultivated, or are peaty pools and mere bog-holes. Investigation indicated that the asserted existence of *Tetrao tetrix*, even in the *Eastern* Pyrenees, is an error; that *Bonasa betulina* is seldom, if ever, found to the eastward of Luchon, and chiefly to the westward of Gabas; while *Tetrao urogallus* is more abundant in the spruce-fir woods than is generally supposed. There is no evidence that *Gyps fulvus* nests anywhere within the French frontier. A line of migration of some importance appears to pass from Catalonia, over the Col de Puymorens (6300 feet), to the valley of the Ariège, in France; and Turtle-doves, Willow-Warblers, &c. were found above snow covered with footprints of the Ptarmigan.

This was the last Meeting of the Session.

The next Meeting of the Club will probably take place at the Restaurant Frascati, 32 Oxford Street, on Wednesday, October 21st: the dinner at 7 P.M.

(Signed)

P. L. SCLATER,
Chairman.

HOWARD SAUNDERS,
Sec., Treas., & Acting Editor.

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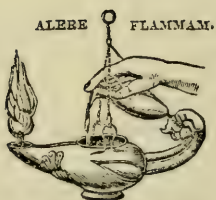
BULLETIN
OF THE
BRITISH ORNITHOLOGISTS' CLUB.

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R. BOWDLER SHARPE, LL.D.

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PREFACE.

As will be seen from the list supplied by our Secretary and Treasurer, the number of Members of the B. O. U. who recognize the practical utility of the B. O. C. is increasing, and the rota has now reached the number of 118. The communications made to our monthly gatherings show no signs of diminution in interest or importance.

(Signed)

R. BOWDLER SHARPE,
Editor.

September 20th, 1897.

ERRATUM.

Page xliii, line 10, for *Heterhyphantes stephanophorus* read *Sycobrotus insignis*.

RULES

OF THE

BRITISH ORNITHOLOGISTS' CLUB.

(As amended 20th June, 1894.)

I. This Club was founded for the purpose of facilitating the social intercourse of Members of the British Ornithologists' Union. Any Member of that Union can become a Member of this Club on payment (to the Treasurer) of an entrance fee of *Five Shillings* and a subscription of *Five Shillings* for the current Session. Resignation of the Union involves resignation of the Club.

II. Members who have not paid their subscriptions before the last Meeting of the Session shall cease, *ipso facto*, to be Members of the Club, but may be reinstated on payment of arrears, *and* a new entrance fee.

III. No Member of the B. O. U. can attend the Meetings of the Club as a Visitor, unless his usual residence is outside the United Kingdom. Every Member of the Club introducing a visitor shall pay *One Shilling* to the Treasurer *.

IV. The Club shall meet, as a rule, on the Third Wednesday in every Month, from October to June inclusive, at such hour and place as may be arranged by the Committee. At these Meetings papers upon ornithological subjects shall be read, specimens exhibited, and discussion invited.

* The latter portion of this Rule is at present (1897) in abeyance, owing to the prosperous condition of the finances.

V. An Abstract of the Proceedings of the B. O. C. shall be printed as soon as possible after each Meeting, under the title of the 'Bulletin of the British Ornithologists' Club,' and distributed gratis to every Member *who has paid his subscription*. Copies of this Bulletin shall be published and sold at *One Shilling* each.

VI. The affairs of this Club shall be managed by a Committee, to consist of the Editors of 'The Ibis,' the Editor of the 'Bulletin,' and the Secretary and Treasurer, *ex officio*, with three other Members, one of whom shall be changed every year. The Committee shall have power to make and alter the Bye-laws.

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[Members are requested to keep the Secretary informed of
 any changes in their addresses.]

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BULLETIN

OF THE

BRITISH ORNITHOLOGISTS' CLUB.

No. XXXVIII.

THE thirty-seventh Meeting of the Club was held at the Restaurant Frascati, 32 Oxford Street, on Wednesday, the 21st of October, 1896.

Chairman: P. L. SCLATER, F.R.S.

Members present:—BOYD ALEXANDER, E. BIDWELL, J. L. BONHOTE, PHILIP CROWLEY, W. E. DE WINTON, Dr. F. D. DREWITT, E. A. S. ELLIOT, JOHN GERRARD, W. GRAHAM, W. R. OGILVIE GRANT, G. H. CATON HAIGH, J. E. HARTING, OSWIN A. J. LEE, Major A. P. LOYD, P. H. MUNN, R. NESHAM, C. E. PEARSON, H. J. PEARSON, F. PENROSE, T. DIGBY PIGOTT, C.B., HOWARD SAUNDERS (*Treasurer*), R. BOWDLER SHARPE (*Editor*), W. B. TEGEMEIER, Major HORACE TERRY, N. F. TICEHURST, H. M. WALLIS, JOHNSON WILKINSON, LIONEL P. WILLIAMS, C. A. WRIGHT.

Visitors:—H. TABOR BROOKS, Dr. CROSSE, J. EARDLEY HILL, R. H. HUNTER, Dr. TRAQUAIR.

The Treasurer announced that the Members of the Club were now 117 in number.

Mr. FRANK PENROSE was elected on the Committee, in

[October 31st, 1896.]

place of Mr. P. Crowley, who retired by rotation. Mr. P. L. SCLATER was unanimously elected Chairman, and Messrs. P. CROWLEY and W. GRAHAM were appointed Vice-Chairmen for the present Session.

The Chairman gave his annual Address to the Club, and made the following remarks :—

“ On commencing the proceedings of the Fifth Session of the British Ornithologists’ Club, I cannot refrain from offering a few preliminary remarks on the flourishing condition of our Association. It has increased in number regularly year by year, and now embraces, with very few exceptions, the most active and energetic Members of the British Ornithologists’ Union. I think that the founders of the Club may be well congratulated upon the undoubted success which, in the face of some sinister prophecies, has attended their efforts.

“ Passing on to other topics, I must first call your attention to the very serious losses that have occurred in the ranks of Ornithology since I had the honour of addressing you a year ago. The deaths of Lord Lilford and Mr. Seebohm have made vacancies which it will be hard indeed to fill up. I need not on the present occasion attempt to speak of the events of their lives, which have been treated of elsewhere; but I will remind you that both of them worked up to almost the last moments of their existence, and left behind them publications unfinished at the times of their decease. Lord Lilford’s excellent ‘Coloured Illustrations of the Birds of the British Islands’ was nearly at its termination when the death of the author took place. We are pleased to know that some well-qualified friends have arranged to do the little that is necessary to render these beautiful volumes complete. As regards Mr. Seebohm’s work on British Birds’ Eggs, which was announced to be in preparation some time ago, we are glad to learn that Dr. Bowdler Sharpe has completed it for publication, and this, we are told, has not been a difficult task. The same, however, is not likely to be the case with Seebohm’s ‘Monograph of the Thrushes,’ which the energetic

Editor of our 'Bulletin' is likewise prepared to see through the press. Although the plates of this work, as we understand, have mostly been already drawn and coloured under Seeböhm's superintendence, I fear that in this case, as regards the letterpress, the Editor will have a long and by no means easy task to perform.

"Passing on to other ornithological publications which have been issued since the commencement of our last Session, I may point out that three additional volumes of the British Museum Catalogue of Birds, which, when I spoke to you last year, I alluded to as being nearly ready, have all been published, and that volume xxvi. (to contain the Herons, Pelicans, Grebes, Divers, and Penguins) is now only required to complete this most important work. Captain Shelley's first volume of his work on African ornithology has also been published. Other important ornithological works lately brought out are the new edition of Mr. Ridgway's 'Manual of North-American Birds' and Dr. Mivart's beautifully illustrated 'Monograph of the Lories.'

"As regards ornithological books in course of preparation or in contemplation (besides the posthumous works of which I have already spoken), I am pleased to say that the Index to the 4th, 5th, and 6th series of 'The Ibis' (1877-94) is making good progress, the first portion of it being already in type. Mr. Beddard has been hard at work on his 'Anatomy of Birds' all the year, and hopes to have it ready for the press in 1897. Mr. Joseph Whitaker is projecting a volume on the Birds of Tunis, in which he will put together the results recently achieved by himself and other collectors in that interesting district of North Africa.

"Perhaps the most remarkable event in ornithology, that has lately been divulged to us is the characterization of the gigantic bird of the *Diprotodon*-beds of South Australia, which, as announced in the last number of 'The Ibis,' Dr. Stirling has named *Genyornis newtoni*. We are not yet in possession of a full account of this extinct monster, but have only been told that it is, in fact, a gigantic Emu, just as the *Diprotodon* of the same epoch is an exaggerated

Kangaroo. As regards extinct birds, we may also rejoice that (as already announced in 'The Ibis') the Trustees of the British Museum have acquired for this country the whole collection of remains of the so-called Order Stereornithes got together by Dr. Ameghino, of Buenos Aires. The study of these fossils, which has been assigned to Mr. Andrews, of the Geological Department of the British Museum, will, we have no doubt, throw a flood of light upon the real relations of this series of remains of a former bird-world, which has been recently revealed to us.

"Now, and lately, as is usual, a large number of British ornithologists are scattered over the earth's surface, some temporarily, others as quasi-permanent residents. As shown by Mr. Ogilvie Grant in the last number of 'The Ibis,' Mr. Whitehead is continuing his most successful investigations in the highlands of the Philippine group, while Mr. A. Everett has been making similar researches in the mountains of Celebes, and Messrs. Rickett and De La Touche are always busy in China. Mr. Alexander Whyte (Sir Harry Johnston's naturalist at Zomba) has lately carried out a most successful foray into the Nyika plateau of Northern Nyasaland, and we may shortly expect his collections in this country, while Mr. Lort Phillips is planning another winter-expedition into the northern parts of tropical Africa. As regards the New World, our young friend Mr. Graham Kerr (the former naturalist of the abortive Pilcomayo Expedition) has departed on a scientific mission into Western Paraguay, where there is an ample field for discovery. Mr. Fitzgerald's new expedition to ascend Aconcagua and other giants of the Andes will be accompanied by Mr. Philip Gosse, who is said to be a competent collector. In the Australian region Mr. North at Sydney, Mr. Le Souef at Melbourne, and Mr. De Vis in Queensland are ever at work on ornithology; while in New Zealand Sir Walter Buller promises us a new and complete manual of the birds of that island-group, bringing up the subject to the present date, and in the Sandwich Islands Mr. Perkins is still hard at work among the mountains. Thus it may be truly said

of the British ornithologist, as of the British engineer, that his proud motto is 'Ubique.' "

MR. OSBERT SALVIN communicated the following description of an apparently new species of American Partridge :—

DENDRORTYX HYPOSPODIUS, sp. n.

D. leucophryi similis, sed corpore subtus minime rufo guttatus, pectoris et hypochondriarum plumis saturate griseis, stria rhachali nigra; fronte, superciliis et guttore sordide albidis; scapularibus et secundariis extus fere unicoloribus indistincte vermiculatis, maculis majoribus cervinis nullis; pedibus, ut videtur, obscurioribus, tarsis postice fere nigricantibus. Long. tota circa 12·0 poll., alæ 5·9, caudæ 5·0, tarsi 2·0, dig. med. cum ungue 2·05.

Hab. Azalias de Cartago, Costa Rica, 8th May, 1896 (C. F. Underwood).

Mr. Underwood has recently sent to us a single male specimen of this *Dendrortyx*, which differs in several points from *D. leucophrys* of Guatemala, its nearest ally. The species has been before noticed in Costa Rica, and appears in Mr. Boucard's list (P. Z. S. 1878, p. 42) as *D. leucophrys*. His specimen was also obtained in the volcano of Cartago, in the month of May.

THE HON. WALTER ROTHSCHILD sent the following description of a new Parrot from New Guinea :—

PSITTACELLA PICTA, sp. n.

♂. Top of the head chestnut-rufous; sides of the head greyish brown; an orange-yellow collar on the hind neck; sides of neck with a chestnut-rufous spot. Above green; lower rump and upper tail-coverts deep red; back and rump with black cross-bars; wings blackish, outer webs of quills green, the primaries with yellow edges towards the tip; throat brown, with a bluish wash; under tail-coverts red; rest of underparts green; upper breast dark blue, a blue tinge along the middle of the abdomen; under wing-coverts green, bend of wing bluish. Bill bluish, tip whitish. Wing 112 mm., tail 70, culmen 15.

♀. Throat and sides of the head greenish blue, no orange-yellow collar; cross-bars above more numerous; breast yellowish, with broad black cross-bands; abdomen with indistinct yellowish and dusky cross-bars. Otherwise like the male.

Hab. Mount Victoria, in the Owen Stanley Range, British New Guinea, at elevations of from 5000 to 7000 feet.

Types in the Tring Museum.

Professor MENZBIER forwarded the description of an apparently new species of Tawny Owl from Transcaucasia, with the following remarks:—

“In the summer of 1894 a friend of mine, Mr. Willkousky, in Batum, received a nestling of an Owl in down, captured in the marsh near that town. Some time after, the Owl assumed its adult dress, which was remarkable for its very dark brown general colour, with some ferruginous marks on the scapulars; and now, after new moulting, the bird is as dark as before, and even darker, always with a white bill. At first I thought that this specimen was but a merely individual melanism of *Syrnium aluco*; but in the spring of this year I received from Mr. Willkousky a skin of another specimen coloured in the same manner as the first, which had been obtained in a vineyard in the district of Shushov. After a careful examination of this specimen, I am now convinced that this Owl is a very good new species, differing from *Syrnium aluco* both in its general colour and character of markings, as may be seen from the following diagnosis. I have named the species after Mr. Willkousky:—

“*SYRNIUM WILLKOUSKII*, sp. n.

“*S. magnitudine S. aluconis*, remigibus, ut in *S. alucone*, denticulatis. Obscure fuscum, facie pedibusque fusco-atris, supra indistincte nigro striatum; subtus magis ferruginescens, striis dilutis longitudinalibus fusco-atris. Remigibus rectricibusque rufescenti-fuscis, haud transfasciatis. Collari albo vel cinereo nullo loco presenti. Rostro albido, iridibus fusco-atris. Long. 12'' 3''', caud. 7'' 5'''.

“*Hab.* Transcaucasia.”

Dr. BOWDLER SHARPE exhibited skins of two new species of East-African birds, for which he proposed the following names :—

SERINUS FAGANI, sp. n.

S. similis S. angolensi, sed merito gulaque purè albis, minimè nigro maculatis: torques gutturali e maculis magnis nigris formata distinguenda. Long. tot. 4·2 poll., alæ 2·55, caudæ 1·85, tarsi 9·5.

CISTICOLA HINDEI, sp. n.

C. similis C. terrestri, et caudâ eodem modo picturatâ, sed uropygio dorso concolori, minimè rufescente, distinguenda. Long. tot. 3·8 poll., culm. 0·4, alæ 2·1, caudæ 1·2, tarsi 0·85.

These new species were discovered at Machakos Station, in British East Africa, by Mr. S. L. Hinde. The other species in his collection were *Lamprocolius sycobius*, *Spreo superbus*, *Buphaga erythrorhyncha*, *Vidua principalis*, *Penthetria laticauda*, *P. eques*, *Drepanoplectes jacksoni*, *Pyromelana flammiceps*, *P. xanthomelana*, *Lagonosticta brunneiceps*, *Hyphantornis spekii*, *Mirafra africana*, *Pyrhulauda leucoparæa*, *Anthus rufulus*, *Macronyx croceus*, *Nectarinia kiliensis*, *Cimnryis gutturalis*, *Lanius collurio*, *L. caudatus*, *L. humeralis*, *Phylloscopus trochilus*, *Cisticola erythrogenys*, *C. lugubris*, *Centropus superciliosus*, *Coracias garrula*, *Irrisor erythrorhynchus*, *Elanus caeruleus*, *Limnocolax niger*, *Oxyechus tricoloris*.

"The station of Machakos," writes Dr. Hinde, "is situated on the edge of a grass plain which stretches for some miles coastwards. The plain is dotted with thorn-trees about 100 to 300 yards apart, and these small thorns are the only trees in the neighbourhood. The nearest forest is at Kikuyu, about 45 miles away. On the east side of the station is a valley about 500 yards wide through which runs a stream about 2 feet wide and 3 inches deep. The whole valley and patches of the plain are cultivated. On the east side of the stream the mountains rise abruptly, some points being over 2000 feet above the station, which is itself 5300 feet above the sea-level."

Dr. SHARPE exhibited, on behalf of Mr. Ruskin Butterfield, the specimen of the Wall-Creeper (*Tichodroma muraria*) described by Mr. Butterfield, in the 'Zoologist' for August 1896, as having been shot near Winchelsea.

Mr. W. R. OGILVIE GRANT exhibited a fine series of skins of birds collected by Mr. John Whitehead in the Philippines, among them being examples of the two new species of Thrushes described in the current number of 'The Ibis,' and of the new *Turnix whiteheadi*, described by him in the second volume of his 'Handbook to the Game-Birds.'

Mr. G. H. CATON HAIGH exhibited a specimen of *Phylloscopus viridanus* shot by himself on the 5th of September at North Cotes, Lincolnshire. This Asiatic species was new to Great Britain, but had occurred three times on Heligoland.

Mr. L. BONHOTE exhibited a series of skins of the Common Linnet (*Fringilla cannabina*), showing the gradual change of colour on the breast-feathers of the male. He also described the nesting of the Corn-Crake (*Crex pratensis*) in captivity, and remarked that both captive and wild birds of this species moulted the whole of their quills directly after the young were hatched, and that both male and female were then incapable of flight.

Mr. Bonhote also exhibited a remarkably large skin of a Nightingale, shot in August in Cambridgeshire, which measured 7 inches in length and had a wing of 4.5 inches.

Mr. SCLATER read some extracts from letters received from Mr. J. Graham Kerr (B.O.U.), who had recently left England for Western Paraguay. They contained many notes on the birds observed during his voyage up the La Plata and Paraguay Rivers to Asuncion, where he had arrived on Sept. 13th. As regards the alleged occurrence of a second species of Cormorant on these rivers (Aplin, Ibis, 1894, p. 152), he was inclined to refer all the numerous specimens he had hitherto

seen to *Phalacrocorax brasiliensis*. On Sept. 12th he observed immense numbers of alligators along the banks, and several flocks of *Chauna cristata*, amongst one of which were some individuals of *Cathartes atratus*. Near the mouth of the Paraguay was passed an enormous flock of the Maguari Stork (*Euxenura maguari*), with 4 or 5 Jabirus (*Mycteria americana*) amongst them. Other birds noted on the Paraguay were *Ceryle amazona*, *C. torquata*, *C. americana*, *Pyrocephalus rubineus*, *Furnarius rufus*, *Aramides ypecaha*, *Ardea cocoi*, *A. egretta*, *Cairina moschata*, and *Dendrocycna fulva*. Mr. Kerr was expecting to leave Asuncion for Concepcion, on the Upper Paraguay, on the 23rd September.

Mr. SCLATER exhibited a pair of the Great Nuthatch (*Sitta magna*) from the Shan States, Burmah, collected by Major Rippon. The species was only previously known from a female example described by Major R. G. Wardlaw Ramsay in 1876.

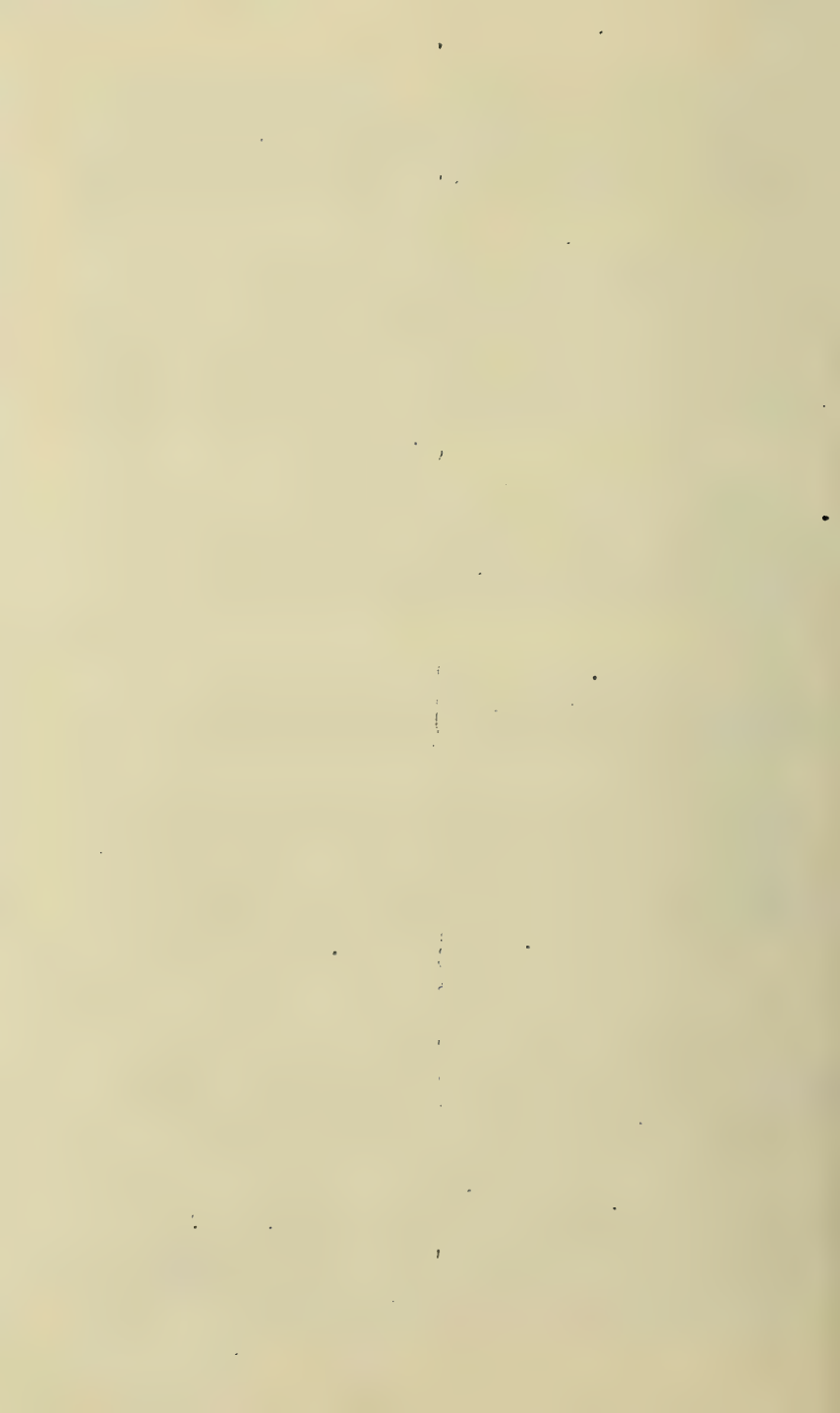
Mr. W. B. TEGETMEIER exhibited some snail-shells (*Helix nemoralis*), forty-eight of which had been taken from the crop of a Pheasant.

Mr. OSWIN A. J. LEE exhibited a series of photographs of nests and eggs of British birds, as well as coloured photographs of eggs of some Raptores and Alcidæ. These pictures were very much admired by the members present, and a cordial vote of thanks was passed to Mr. Lee for their exhibition.

The next Meeting of the Club will take place on Wednesday, the 18th of November, at the Restaurant Frascati, 32 Oxford Street, at 7 P.M.

(Signed)

P. L. SCLATER,	R. BOWDLER SHARPE,	HOWARD SAUNDERS,
Chairman.	Editor.	Sec. & Treas.



BULLETIN

OF THE

BRITISH ORNITHOLOGISTS' CLUB.

No. XXXIX.

THE thirty-eighth Meeting of the Club was held at the Restaurant Frascati, 32 Oxford Street, on Wednesday, the 18th of November, 1896.

Chairman : P. L. SCLATER, F.R.S.

Members present :—O. V. APLIN, E. BIDWELL, F. C. CRAWFORD, P. CROWLEY, W. E. DE WINTON, Dr. F. D. DREWITT, Col. PAGET W. L'ESTRANGE, R.A., A. H. MACPHERSON, Rev. H. A. MACPHERSON, J. G. MILLAIS, R. NESHAM, C. E. PEARSON, H. J. PEARSON, FRANK PENROSE, E. LORT PHILLIPS, H. LEYBORNE POPHAM, R. H. READ, HOWARD SAUNIERS (*Treasurer*), R. BOWDLER SHARPE (*Editor*), E. CAVENDISH TAYLOR, N. F. TICEHURST, A. B. R. TREVOR-BATTYE, H. M. WALLIS, WATKIN WATKINS, JOHNSON WILKINSON, LIONEL A. WILLIAMS, JOHN YOUNG.

Visitors : J. HOWARD DAVIES, Dr. C. I. FORSYTH MAJOR, H. STEVENS, S. YARLEY, C.M.G., J. J. BALDWIN YOUNG.

Mr. ROBERT READ exhibited and made remarks on some interesting nests of birds from Sweden, a nest of the Honey-Buzzard being among the specimens exhibited.

[December 5th, 1896.]

Dr. BOWDLER SHARPE stated that Professor Smit, the Director of the Stockholm Museum, had kindly forwarded to England, for his inspection, the type specimen of *Plangus naegæus* of Sundevall (Æfv. K. Vet.-Akad. Forh. Stockholm, 1874, p. 28). Since the species had been described and made the type of a distinct genus, no one had attempted to determine its identity, and it was interesting to find that *Plangus naegæus* was in reality the young of *Harpyhaliaëtus coronatus*.

Dr. Sharpe also exhibited a specimen of the Pied Wagtail (*Motacilla lugubris*), shot near Wandsworth on the 18th of October by Mr. Henry Grant. The changes through which the bird was passing were clearly, according to Dr. Sharpe, those of pattern in the feather rather than those of moult.

Mr. SCLATER exhibited a chick of the Black-winged Peafowl (*Pavo nigripennis*) which had been bred in Mr. Blaauw's garden in Holland, and remarked that he still strongly maintained the validity of this species, which in the 22nd volume of the 'Catalogue of Birds' had been classed only as a "well-marked variety," and was confident that its native habitat would be ultimately discovered. Not only was the male of this species different from that of *P. cristatus*, but the females were quite different, and so was the young, as shown by the specimen now exhibited.

Mr. Sclater read the following notes from Mr. Blaauw on this subject:—

"In answer to your questions about the breeding of *Pavo nigripennis*, I can state that I have bred these birds for the last six years, having had between 10 and 20 young birds every year. These birds have *never* shown any signs of variation.

"The chicks when they leave the egg are always of a silky yellowish-white colour all over. The flight-feathers, when they begin to appear, are always yellowish white at the end and brownish at the base, especially so on the inner web. The tail-feathers also are dark at the base, with whitish tips.

The birds then gradually get the well-known light plumage of the *Pavo nigripennis* hen. If the young bird is a male, the plumage soon becomes mottled with dark feathers, and in autumn many greenish and bluish feathers are visible. In the second autumn the male comes into full colour, except the long train, which comes a year later.

"As I four times lost my old breeding-cock, I had to replace it as many times and got birds from different places, and the offspring from these cocks never showed any variation either as chicks or as adult birds. If *Pavo nigripennis* is not a species it certainly is a wonderfully constant variety.

"I may add that the bill and legs of chicks are of a pale flesh-colour."

Mr. SCLATER called attention to the "Act to amend the Wild Birds' Protection Act, 1896," passed during the last Session of Parliament, whereby the Secretary of State was enabled, on application, for special reasons, to make an order prohibiting the taking or killing of particular kinds of wild birds during the whole year. Mr. Sclater suggested that advantage should be taken of this power to render penal throughout the year the destruction of such birds as the Hoopoe and the Golden Oriole, which might be reasonably expected to breed in some of the southern counties of England if they were not molested.

Mr. SCLATER gave a short account of his 48-hours' visit to Spitsbergen in the Orient s.s. 'Garonne' in August last, and mentioned, as some of the more interesting birds he had noticed there, the Snow-Bunting, the Purple Sandpiper, the Ivory Gull, and Buffon's Skua. An example of the Spitsbergen Ptarmigan (*Lagopus himileucurus*) had been shot by one of the party while they were in Ice Fiord, but the bird was stated to be rare there.

The Rev. A. H. MACPHERSON exhibited two interesting hybrids of *Lagopus scoticus* and *Lyrurus tetrix*.

Colonel L'ESTRANGE drew attention to some of the points relating to the law as it affected bird-catching.

The next Meeting of the Club will take place on Wednesday, the 16th of December, at the Restaurant Frascati, 32 Oxford Street; the Dinner at 7 P.M.

(Signed)

P. L. SCLATER,	R. BOWDLER SHARPE,	HOWARD SAUNDERS,
<i>Chairman.</i>	<i>Editor.</i>	<i>Sec. & Treas.</i>

BULLETIN

OF THE

BRITISH ORNITHOLOGISTS' CLUB.

NO. III.

THE thirty-ninth meeting of the Club was held at the Restaurant Frascati, 32 Oxford Street, on Wednesday, the 16th of December, 1896.

Chairman: P. L. SCLATER, F.R.S.

Members present:—BOYD ALEXANDER, G. E. H. BARRETT-HAMILTON, E. BIDWELL, J. L. BONNOTE, P. CROWLEY, Dr. F. D. DREWITT, H. J. ELWES, J. GERRARD, W. GRAHAM, W. R. OGILVIE-GRANT, Col. P. W. L'ESTRANGE, E. G. B. MEADE-WALDO, R. NESHAM, C. E. PEARSON, H. J. PEARSON, FRANK PENROSE, H. SAUNDERS (*Treasurer*), R. BOWDLER SHARPE (*Editor*), Rev. H. H. SLATER, E. C. TAYLOR, Major HORACE TERRY, N. F. TICEHURST, W. F. URWICK, L. A. WILLIAMS, C. A. WRIGHT, JOHN YOUNG.

Visitors: W. P. CRAKE, F. CURTIS, Hon. ALFRED HOOD, F. E. MUGFORD, F. TURNER.

The Hon. WALTER ROTHSCHILD sent the description of a new Bird of Paradise:—

LOBOPARADISEA, gen. n.

The type of this new genus differs from all others in having two wattles, which entirely cover the basal half of

[December 30th, 1896.]

the beak, except a narrow ridge on the culmen. Size small; bill very broad at base, and short; feathers of underparts and rump decomposed and with a strong satiny gloss. No lengthened ornamental plumes. Tip of tail rounded.

LOBOPARADISEA SERICEA, sp. n.

Head brown; hind neck and back rufous-chestnut, with a slight olive tinge; rump bright yellow, with a beautiful silky sheen. Wings and upper wing-coverts ruddy chestnut; primaries broadly tipped with black and having the shafts brick-red; tail and upper tail-coverts reddish chestnut. Underside bright yellow and most beautifully silky. Thighs olive-brown. Under wing-coverts and underside of primaries brownish cinnamon. Bill with two large wattles reaching halfway down from the base, dull blue with yellow tips. Wing 91 millim., tail 58, bill 21.

Bought from natives at Koeroedoe, Dutch New Guinea.

Mr. W. R. OGILVIE-GRANT exhibited specimens of several interesting birds from the island of Samar, amongst which the following appeared to be new to science:—

PITHECOPHAGA, gen. n.

Probably most closely allied to *Harpyhaliaëtus*, of South America.

Bill very deep and much compressed; the ridge of the culmen much curved, forming a perfect segment of a circle; nasal opening a vertical slit at the margin of the cere; lores and fore part of the face and cheeks covered with bristles only; a full occipital crest of long lanceolate feathers; legs and feet very powerful. Tarsi mostly naked, with a row of large scutes down the front; sides and back reticulate, hexagonal scales on the planta very large, and terminating in three large scutes above the base of the hallux; soles of the feet covered with rough papillæ; claws very strong and curved. Wings comparatively short and rounded, the primaries being very little longer than the secondaries, the first primary-quill much the shortest, and the fifth probably

the longest (tip broken). Tail very long, composed of twelve feathers and slightly wedge-shaped, the middle pair being about an inch longer than the outer pair.

1. PITHECOPHAGA JEFFERYI, sp. n.

Top of the head pale whitish buff with dark middles to the feathers, which are rather narrow and pointed, especially those on the occiput, which form a long full crest. General colour above rich brown, most of the feathers with paler margins, especially the quill-feathers and wing-coverts; tail-feathers dark brown, the two median pairs with wide dark bands; shafts of quills and tail-feathers creamy white; under-parts uniform creamy white, the thighs and long flank-feathers with reddish-brown shaft-stripes.

Total length about 33.0 inches; bill, greatest depth measured from base of cere to ridge of culmen 1.5, from base of cere to tip 1.5; wing 20.5; tail 15.0; tarsus 4.65; middle toe without claw 2.7, claw (measured in a straight line from base to tip) 1.45; hind toe without claw 1.8, claw 2.0.

"Iris dull creamy brown, with an outer ring of brownish red, the two colours melting into one another and not sharply defined; face and base of bill dull french blue, tip of bill black; legs and feet dull yellow; claws black." (*J. Whitehead.*)

2. RHABDORNIS MINOR, sp. n.

Adult male. Differs from the male of *R. mystacalis* in having the general colour of the upper parts *reddish brown*, almost like those of the female, instead of dark greyish brown, and the bill much shorter. "Iris reddish brown; bill black; feet dusky" (*J. Whitehead.*)

Total length 5.5 inches, culmen 0.82, wing 3.1, tail 1.6, tarsus 0.72.

Adult female. Similar to the female of *R. mystacalis*, but smaller and with the culmen much shorter. From the male of *R. minor* it is only distinguished by the ear-coverts being brown instead of black.

3. *RHABDORNIS INORNATUS*, sp. n.

Adult male. Easily distinguished from *R. mystacalis* and *R. minor* by having the bill altogether stouter and stronger, the top of the head and nape uniform dull greyish brown; mantle brown, with whitish shafts only to the feathers; the lesser and median wing-coverts with well-marked white shaft-stripes; chin, throat, and fore neck greyish white; the margins of the sides and flank-feathers much narrower and browner. "Iris dark brown; bill and feet black" (*J. Whitehead*).

Total length 6·2 inches, culmen 0·74, wing 3·2, tail 2·0, tarsus 0·8.

4. *ZOSTERORNIS PYGMÆUS*, sp. n.

Adult male and female. General colour above brownish olive, brownest on the crown, each feather of which has a narrow whitish shaft-stripe; lores whitish; feathers above and below the eye blackish with white shafts; chin whitish; throat, fore neck, and chest grey, with white middles to the feathers, most marked on the throat; breast and belly white, shading into greyish on the sides, flanks, and under tail-coverts. "Iris bicoloured, outer ring red, inner pale yellow; bill slate-blue, black at tip; feet slate-grey" (*J. Whitehead*).

Total length 4·0 inches, culmen 0·5, wing 2·1, tail 1·55, tarsus 0·65.

This is much the smallest of the five species of *Zosterornis* now known.

Mr. F. PENROSE called the attention of the Club to some letters which had recently appeared in the 'Field.'

On November 28, 1896, the following paragraph occurred amongst the "Notes and Queries on Natural History":—
"Swallows wintering in England.—A pair of Swallows remained the whole of the last mild winter at the farm of Mr. T. Whipp, Elton Wold, East Yorkshire, making an old large barn their headquarters. They could be seen out every fine day. The birds remained till joined by their friends from the south in the spring. On inquiry, I find none have been seen for some time this season.—G. C. SWAILES (Beverley)."

And the following paragraph in the next week's issue, December 5th:—

"Two Swallows hibernated last winter in a cowhouse at Healey Vicarage, near Masham, and the birds were frequently handled by members of the vicar's family. This is the only instance of such an occurrence that I have heard of in this locality.—JAMES CARTER (Masham, Yorks)."

Mr. Penrose thought that these two statements, and particularly the second, were of very great interest, so he wrote to the Rev. T. Powell, Vicar of Healey, to ask him for further particulars, and received the following reply:—

"I have pleasure in giving you the facts with regard to the hibernating of the two Swallows here last winter (1895-6). They were members of a very late brood of four hatched in a nest under the slates inside our cowhouse. I may here mention that a pair of Swallows nest every year in the same place. The two Swallows in question were seen flying about by members of my family long after the other Swallows had disappeared. They finally lodged above the lintel of the cowhouse door, squeezing themselves into a small hole in the stonework, and thus escaping the draught. When I saw them the tail was the only part of their bodies that was at all conspicuous. My eldest son, then 16 years old, had them both in his hands at the beginning of last Christmas holidays, soon after his return from Bradford Grammar School. They were in a drowsy condition, and did not attempt to fly when he gave them the chance. On very fine days, as he informs me, he saw them flying about for about two hours in the middle of the day from 11 to 1 o'clock.

"One of the Swallows died some time in spring, the other left its winter-quarters shortly before the return of the Swallows (in April) and was a conspicuous object among its fellows during spring and early summer through having lost one of the forks of its tail. It mated with another Swallow, and they attempted to nest in the pigsty, which joins the cowhouse, but this came to nothing—the lowness of the roof of the pigsty most likely causing them to desist from

the attempt. It is hardly necessary to add that last winter hereabouts, in common with the rest of England, was very mild."

Mr. CHARLES E. PEARSON exhibited an interesting clutch of the eggs of the Common Whitethroat (*Sylvia cinerea*), which showed a remarkable pink tinge. These eggs had been obtained by Mr. F. B. Whitlock near Nottingham.

Mr. SCLATER read some extracts from a letter received from Mr. Graham Kerr, dated Villa Concepcion, Paraguay, Oct. 17th, 1896 (*cf.* Bull. B. O. C. above, p. viii). Mr. Kerr had arrived there from Asuncion about three weeks before, and was then about to leave for a Missionary station in the Gran Chaco, where *Lepidosirens* (the primary object of the expedition) were said to be abundant. A small steamer would convey him and his companion (Mr. Budgett) 12 leagues up the Paraguay to Carayá Vuelta, whence they would strike across the Chaco (some six days' journey) westward to their destination. Of birds, Mr. Kerr had observed in the neighbourhood of Concepcion (all quite common) *Geothlypis velata*, *Tachycineta leucorrhoa*, *Tanagra sayaca*, *Paroaria capitata*, *Coryphospingus cristatus*, *Amblycercus solitarius*, *Cassicus albirostris*, *Aphobus chopi*, *Cyanocorax chrysops*, and *C. cæruleus* among the Oscines. Of the Tracheophonæ the most ordinary forms were *Tenioptera nengeta*, *T. irupero*, *Fluvicola albiventris*, *Pitangus bolivianus*, *Pyrocephalus rubineus*, *Myiarchus ferox*, *Milvulus tyrannus*, *Furnarius rufus*, *Phacellodomus striaticollis*, *Xiphocolaptes major*, *Picolaptes angustirostris*, and *Thamnophilus radiatus*. The commonest Picarians were *Colaptes agricola*, three species of *Ceryle*, *Crotophaga ani*, *C. major*, *Diplopterus navius*, and *Ramphastos toco*. The ordinary Parrots were *Chrysotis æstiva* and *Bolborhynchus monachus*. *Polyborus tharus* and *Cathartes atratus* were plentiful, and also five species of Herons. Amongst the Water-birds Mr. Kerr had noted *Phimosus infuscatus*, *Ajaja rosea*, *Chauna cristata*, and four species of Ducks, besides some well-known Rails, Plovers, and other Waders.

A diving-bird, apparently *Plotus anhinga*, was very common all along the river. The heavy rains during the stay of the party at Concepcion had filled up all the swamps on the Chaco, which had previously experienced a prolonged drought of several months.

Mr. SCLATER exhibited a skin of a chick in down, a few days old, of the Crested Screamer, *Chauna cristata*, which had been presented to him by Mr. A. Holland, of the Estancia Sta. Elena, Argentine Republic, and remarked upon its great general similarity to the young of the Anatidæ. Mr. Holland had noted the bill as dark brown, tip yellowish, iris black, and feet flesh-colour.

The next Meeting of the Club will take place on Wednesday, the 20th of January, 1897, at the Restaurant Frascati, 32 Oxford Street; the Dinner at 7 P.M.

(Signed)

P. L. SCLATER,	R. BOWDLER SHARPE,	HOWARD SAUNDERS,
<i>Chairman.</i>	<i>Editor.</i>	<i>Sec. & Treas.</i>

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BULLETIN

OF THE

BRITISH ORNITHOLOGISTS' CLUB.

No. XLI.

THE fortieth meeting of the Club was held at the Restaurant Frascati, 32 Oxford Street, on Wednesday, the 20th of January, 1897.

Chairman: P. L. SCLATER, F.R.S.

Members present:—G. E. H. BARRETT-HAMILTON, E. BIDWELL, Lieut.-Col. C. T. BINGHAM, F. E. BLAAUW, J. L. BONHOTE, P. CROWLEY, W. E. DE WINTON, Dr. F. D. DREWITT, H. O. FORBES, E. HARTERT, Sir HERBERT MAXWELL, Bart., R. NESHAM, H. J. PEARSON, H. SAUNDERS (*Treasurer*), R. B. SHARPE (*Editor*), W. B. TEGETMEIER, N. F. TICEHURST, A. B. R. TREVOR-BATTYE, WATKIN WATKINS, H. M. WALLIS, C. A. WRIGHT, J. YOUNG.

Visitors: Sir ANDREW N. AGNEW, Bart., J. ALLAN, J. CYRIL CROWLEY, C. B. GEDGE, PERCY JAKES, Col. H. MURRAY.

Mr. W. R. OGILVIE GRANT described a new Francolin, discovered by Mr. F. J. Jackson in the Kikuyu district, British East Africa, as follows:—

FRANCOLINUS KIKUYUENSIS, n. sp.

Most nearly allied to *F. levaillanti*, but the middle of the throat suffused with chestnut; the feathers of the superciliary stripes and the stripes from the gape along the sides of the throat pale rufous, with narrow black edgings, very different from the boldly-marked black and white

[January 31st, 1897.]

stripes in *F. levaillanti*. The patch of black and white feathers so conspicuous on the fore neck and upper part of the chest in *F. levaillanti* are represented by a much smaller patch with the ground-colour rufous white. The breast and underparts are buff, barred with black, especially on the sides and flanks, the chestnut markings so conspicuous in *F. levaillanti* being at most merely represented by one or two scattered red spots on the outside flank-feathers.

Total length about 12 inches, culmen 1·45, wing 6·8, tail 3·1, tarsus 2·0.

A letter was read from Professor MENZBIER, correcting some errors which had appeared in the account of the new *Syrnium* described by him at the Meeting of the Club on October 21, 1896 (see Bull. B. O. C. vi. p. vi). The name of the species should have been printed *Syrnium willkonskii*, and the sentence "collari albo vel cinereo, etc." should read "colare albo vel, etc."

Mr. HOWARD SAUNDERS exhibited, on behalf of Mr. J. T. Proud, of Bishop Auckland, a specimen of the Roseate Tern (*Sterna dougalli*) and two clutches of the eggs, obtained by the latter gentleman on the coast of Wales last year.

A paper was read from Dr. SHUFELDT on the attitudes of Loons and Grebes when on land. This paper was intended for publication in 'The Ibis.'

The Hon. WALTER ROTHSCHILD sent for exhibition by Mr. Hartert the type of *Loboparadisea sericea*, which had been described at the last meeting of the B. O. Club, and which would be figured in the 'Novitates Zoologicæ'; also an adult and a young male of the remarkable *Nemophilus macgregoriae* (De Vis), and a series of skins of *Loria loriae*, respecting which he sent the following note:—

"Dr. Bowdler Sharpe, in Part VI. of his 'Monograph of the Paradiseidæ,' still leaves the identity of *Loria mariae* (De Vis) and *Loria loriae*, Salvad., an open question. Since he had my series for comparison, I have had two more males,

one from Mount Victoria, Owen Stanley Range, and one from the Arfak Region. The Mount Victoria bird shows the naked line very large and distinctly, and also that the apparent presence or absence of this character is entirely due to preparation. Thus I think no one can any longer doubt the identity of De Vis and Salvadori's species, which must stand under the name of *Loria loriæ*, Salvadori."

Mr. ERNST HARTERT exhibited specimens of *Nucifraga brachyrhyncha* and *N. macrorhyncha* of C. L. Brehm. The latter was the typical form resident in Europe. The former—i. e. the slender-billed form—inhabited Siberia and was an irregular migrant to Europe.

Mr. HARTERT also exhibited and drew attention to *Certhia familiaris*, L., and *C. brachydactyla*, C. L. Brehm, the former being paler above, purer white below, and having a shorter bill. *C. brachydactyla* was darker and browner above, not so pure white below, and had generally a much longer beak. The former was the usual form in East Prussia, where Mr. Hartert had collected many specimens which were all true *C. familiaris*, while on the Lower Rhine, near Wesel, where the bird was very common, over 40 specimens, shot at different times of the year, were all typical *C. brachydactyla*. Also all the birds examined from Holland and Northern Westphalia were *C. brachydactyla*. But not everywhere were they so definitely separated. Even in East Prussia, *C. brachydactyla* had been found recently; and in Hesse, in Saxony, and in Silesia both occurred close to each other. At Schloss Berlepsch the true *C. familiaris* was found on the hills, but *C. brachydactyla* occurred in the valley, on the willows and poplars along the river. Mr. Kleinschmidt thought the former was an inhabitant of pine-forests, the latter more a bird of leafy woods, such as oak and beech, and of parks and gardens. This explanation was probably right, but in some places the forms did not seem to be so well separated as they were in Prussia and Holland, for example. However, as the note of the two birds was certainly different (as already

proved by Brehm, Homeyer, Kleinschmidt, and others), and as the eggs of *C. brachydactyla* were mostly, though not always, more thickly blotched, they would at present better stand as species than as subspecies, until it might turn out that they intergrade completely in certain places. The British bird was *C. brachydactyla* in a slightly differentiated form, and *C. familiaris* did not seem to occur in England at all.

Mr. SCLATER read an extract from a letter received from Mr. Graham Kerr, dated Waikthlatimungyalwa, in the Chaco Boreal of Paraguay (lat. 23° 30' S. approx.), in which he stated that his time had been fully occupied since he had arrived there (from Concepcion) with researches upon *Lepidosiren*, which was very abundant. He had, however, observed many birds, amongst which were *Turdus rufiventris*, *Polioptila dumicola*, *Tanagra sayaca*, *Saltator carulescens*, *S. aurantiistrostris*, *Molothrus badius*, *Agelaius ruficapillus*, *A. cyanopus*, *Tænioptera nengeta*, *T. irupero*, *Machetornis rixosa*, *Hapalocercus flaviventris*, *Leuconerpes candidus*, *Colaptes agricola*, *Picus cactorum*, *Rhamphastos toco*, *Conurus acuticaudatus*, *C. nanday*, *Pyrrhura vittata*, *Urubitinga zonura*, *Cathartes atratus*, *Ortalis canicollis*, and *Cariama cristata*, besides many others, and numerous Herons and Ducks. After the pressing work of collecting specimens of the *Lepidosiren* was over, he proposed to make some bird-skins, but, on the whole, the avifauna here appeared to be poorer than on the Pilcomayo.

Mr. SCLATER exhibited a specimen of a new Paradise-bird sent to be figured in 'The Ibis' by Mr. De Vis, and proposed to be named *Macgregoria pulchra*. It had large eye-wattles like *Paradigalla carunculata*, but quite different in shape, and the front was not naked, but covered with erect bristles. This species had been discovered by Sir William Macgregor on Mount Scratchley during his recent expedition across British New Guinea at an altitude of from 10,000 to 12,000 feet.

Mr. SCLATER exhibited a drawing, by Mrs. Frederick White, of Georgetown, British Guiana, representing the nest

and egg of the Demeraran Cock-of-the-Rock, *Rupicola crocea*, of natural size, being one of the specimens obtained by Mr. C. A. Lloyd on the Pizara River (see 'The Ibis,' 1896, p. 429, quoted from 'Timehri'). Mr. Sclater observed that the egg of *Rupicola peruviana* had been described and figured by Goudot (Mag. de Zool. 1843, Ois. pl. 37) and by Salmon (P. Z. S. 1879, p. 519), but that he was not acquainted with any previous information as to the nesting of *R. crocea*, except that of Schomburgk ('Reise,' ii. p. 432).

As regards the drawing, Mr. Quelch remarked:—"It is of the exact natural size in every respect. The fibres and twigs of which the nest is composed are clearly shown, together with the outer gum-like lining, which serves to bind the edges of the nest together and to attach it to the rocks. The blotches on the egg are also very carefully represented."

Mr. SCLATER also exhibited a coloured drawing representing the nest of a Guianan Swift (*Panyptila cayennensis*) of the natural size, drawn by Mrs. George Garnett, of Georgetown, and forwarded to him by Mr. Quelch. He called attention to its resemblance to the nest of *P. sancti-hieronyni*, Salvin, figured in the P. Z. S. for 1863, p. 191, and read the following notes upon it, extracted from Mr. Quelch's letter:—

"This nest is also of the exact natural size and shape. They are built attached on the top to a beam, pendent vertically, the aperture being at the bottom.

"The material used in two nests observed was the fine silky fibres from the dried fruit or seed of one of the silk-cotton-trees (*Eriodendron*, sp. inc.), the nest being very soft and warm. The eggs are placed in a little cup-like shelf on one side, at the very top, where the birds would almost touch the few fibres against the beam. There were two young ones in the nest when taken, and one escaped, being strong enough to fly.

"The cross section of the nest is not round, but oval, and the eggs lie on a shelf in one of the sharp curves. One curious thing in connection with one of the nests was that there were

no silk-cotton-trees from which the silky hairs or fibres could be obtained for a distance of some miles from its position. The nest was taken from under a house in Leguan (an island in the estuary of the Essequibo) by Mr. H. Straker, sub-immigration agent."

Mr. W. EAGLE CLARKE sent an account of the occurrence of the Frigate-Petrel (*Pelagodroma marina*) on the west side of Scotland. The bird, a female, was captured alive on 1st January of this year, by the margin of a stream on the west side of the island of Colonsay. Having been forwarded in the flesh to Edinburgh and identified by Mr. Clarke, it is now in the Scottish National collection, in the Museum of Science and Art in that city. The closing week of December last had been remarkable for a succession of south-westerly gales. This was the second recorded occurrence of this Petrel in European seas; and it was interesting to note that the first record was also for the west coast of Britain, namely, at Walney Island, in Morecambe Bay, where a specimen was washed ashore dead in November 1890.

Mr. W. B. TEGETMEIER exhibited a hybrid between the Pheasant and Black Grouse and a curious spangled variety of the Common Partridge.

The Club passed resolutions of sympathy with the family of Herr Gaetke on the death of that eminent ornithologist, and with Mr. J. A. Harvie-Brown on the loss of the ornithological collections at Dunipace by fire.

The next Meeting of the Club will be held on the 17th of February, 1897, at the Restaurant Frascati, 32 Oxford Street; the Dinner at 7 P.M.

(Signed)

P. L. SCLATER,	R. BOWDLER SHARPE,	HOWARD SAUNDERS,
Chairman.	Editor.	Sec. & Treas.

BULLETIN

OF THE

BRITISH ORNITHOLOGISTS' CLUB.

No. XLII.

THE forty-first Meeting of the Club was held at the Restaurant Frascati, 32 Oxford Street, on Wednesday, the 17th of February, 1897.

Chairman: P. L. SCLATER, F.R.S.

Members present:—E. BIDWELL, F. C. CRAWFORD, PHILIP CROWLEY, W. E. DE WINTON, Dr. F. D. DREWITT, W. GRAHAM, W. R. OGILVIE GRANT, G. E. B. MEADE-WALDO, R. NESHAM, HEATLEY NOBLE, T. PARKIN, F. PENROSE, HOWARD SAUNDERS (*Treasurer*), R. BOWDLER SHARPE (*Editor*), A. B. R. TREVOR-BATTYE, H. M. WALLIS, LIONEL A. WILLIAMS, JOHN YOUNG.

Visitors: REGINALD BARRATT, R. A. CROWLEY, RUSSELL JAQUES, M. E. SIMON (Paris).

Mr. H. M. WALLIS exhibited a sketch, accompanied by notes from his diary, of a bird believed by him to be a Diver, which he had observed sitting in an upright position. In the discussion which ensued, the opinion of the ornithologists present was, that the Divers never assumed an erect attitude. Mr. Sclater said that, in the experience of Mr. A. D. Bartlett, none of the many Divers which had lived in the Zoological Gardens had ever attempted to stand upright. This was confirmed by Mr. Meade-Waldo, who had also kept several Divers in captivity.

[February 27th, 1897.]

Mr. T. PARKIN exhibited an egg which had been dredged by a trawler in Rye Bay, Sussex (*cf.* 'Field,' May 26th, June 2nd and 9th, 1894), and supposed to be that of the Velvet Scoter, because birds of that species had recently frequented those waters. Mr. Parkin stated that, after a comparison of this egg with those of *Æ. fusca* in the Natural History Museum, it was evident that it did not belong to this species.

Mr. OSBERT SALVIN sent the following descriptions of two new species of Humming-Birds, specimens of which had been obtained by Mr. O. T. Baron during his recent expedition to Peru :—

DIPHLOGÆNA EVA, sp. n.

D. hespero proxima, sed supra rufescentiore viridi, nucha et cervice postica nitente saturate rubris nec intense nigris, abdomine parte postica latiore rufa et cum tectricibus subcaudalibus pallidiore; rostro quoque longiore differt.

Hab. Succha, E. Peru, January to March 1894 (*O. T. Baron*).

In my paper on Mr. Baron's birds (Nov. Zool. ii. p. 15), I referred several specimens of a *Diphlogæna* from Succha, with doubt, to the Ecuadorean *D. hesperus*, Gould. None of them were quite adult. Mr. Baron's recent collection contains additional specimens, and amongst them one fully-adult bird which has the characteristic lilac thoracic spot.

The dark shining red colour of the nape and back of the neck in the new bird is in strong contrast to the deep black of these parts in *D. hesperus*, and, with the other minor points mentioned above, proves *D. eva* to be a distinct species.

The true *D. iris* occurs further to the eastward in Peru, and Mr. Baron obtained specimens of it at Leimebamba.

ERIOCNEMIS CATHARINA, sp. n.

Nitenti-viridis, cervice postica, dorso antico et tectricibus alarum aureo lavatis, dorso postico et tectricibus supra-caudalibus nitide cæruleo-viridibus, his lætioribus, fronte cæruleo tineta: subtus micanti-viridis, gutture toto aureo lavato, abdomine medio cæruleo tincto, subcauda-

libus nitide purpureo-cyaneis; cauda omnino viridinigra; rostro nigro. Long. tota circa 4·5, alæ 2·75, caudæ rectr. med. 1·3, rectr. lat. 1·75.

♀ mari similis, gutturis plumis ad basin albis plaga terminali magna viridi.

Hab. Leimebamba, E. Peru, July 1894 (*O. T. Baron*).

Obs. *E. luciani* similis, sed uropygio et abdomine medio cyanescentioribus, cauda multo minus furcata facile distinguenda.

Mr. ERNST HARTERT stated that the names of the two *Nucifragæ* had been reversed in the note published in the last number of the 'Bulletin,' and that to avoid further misunderstanding he wished his full statement to be inserted verbatim:—

"Long ago C. L. Brehm had separated the *Nucifraga caryocatactes* of Linnæus into two forms, which he called *N. brachyrhynchus* and *N. macrorhynchus*, his *N. brachyrhynchus*, however, being the typical *N. caryocatactes* of Linnæus. British ornithologists generally, almost with the sole exception of Seebohm, who had acknowledged the two forms, had never believed in them. Prof. Newton, for example (*Dict. B.* p. 647), had declared that, 'as in the case of the *Huia*, this was now supposed to depend on the sex,' a statement which was certainly not right. Dr. Sharpe (*Brit. B. i.* p. 17) had said he had 'never been able to appreciate the supposed differences.' Mr. Hartert had frequently met with the thick-billed form in North-east Prussia, where he found their nests and eggs, and had collected a large series and they were all thick-billed. This was *N. caryocatactes*, L. The same was the case with birds from Scandinavia, the Alps, and the Hungarian mountains. All these birds were resident throughout the year and *did not wander*, while the thin-billed form, *N. macrorhynchus*, C. L. Brehm, which alone inhabited Siberia, frequently wandered in a south-westerly direction, and sometimes occurred all over Germany in great numbers. The differences of the beaks alone were sufficient to separate the two forms, but there were some other differences between them."

The Hon. WALTER ROTHSCHILD sent the following description of a new *Rhamphocœlus*, which he proposed to call

RHAMPHOCÆLUS INEXPECTATUS, sp. nov.

Chin, sides of neck, head, hind neck, interscapulum, wings, with upper and under coverts, tail, centre of abdomen, and thighs black; rest of plumage bright yellow. This yellow is much darker than that of the rump in *Rh. icteronotus*, Bp., but not orange as in *Rh. chrysopterus*, Bouc. On the occiput are a number of scattered feathers bordered with yellow; this may or may not be the remains of immature plumage. Total length 155 mm., wing 82, tail 70, culmen 16, tarsus 20.

Hab. Panama.

Mr. SCLATER made some remarks on the specimens of bones of *Genyornis newtoni* exhibited to the Zoological Society by Prof. Stirling at their last meeting.

Mr. A. TREVOR-BATTYE made some remarks on the Bernacle Goose (*Branta leucopsis*), Brünnich's Guillemot (*Uria bruennichi*), and other species of birds observed by him in Spitsbergen.

The next Meeting of the Club will be held on the 17th of March, 1897, at the Restaurant Frascati, 32 Oxford Street; the Dinner at 7 P.M.

(Signed)

P. L. SCLATER,	R. BOWDLER SHARPE,	HOWARD SAUNDERS,
<i>Chairman.</i>	<i>Editor.</i>	<i>Sec. & Treas.</i>

BULLETIN

OF THE

BRITISH ORNITHOLOGISTS' CLUB.

NO. XLIII.

THE forty-second Meeting of the Club was held at the Restaurant Frascati, 32 Oxford Street, on Wednesday, the 17th of March, 1897.

Chairman : P. L. SCLATER, F.R.S.

Members present :—E. BIDWELL, F. C. CRAWFORD, P. CROWLEY, W. E. DE WINTON, A. H. EVANS, JOHN GERARD, W. R. OGILVIE GRANT, J. G. MILLAIS, P. W. MUNN, E. NEALE, R. NESHAM, HEATLEY NOBLE, C. E. PEARSON, H. J. PEARSON, H. L. POPHAM, H. SAUNDERS (*Treasurer*), R. BOWDLER SHARPE (*Editor*), W. B. TEGETMEIER, N. F. TICEHURST, A. B. R. TREVOR-BATTYE, H. M. WALLIS, WATKIN WATKINS.

Visitors : C. E. FAGAN, E. F. FENWICK, H. WARRAND, RONALD WEBBER, JOHN WHITEHEAD.

The Treasurer informed the meeting of the death of an esteemed member of the Club, Mr. William Graham. It was unanimously voted that a letter of condolence should be sent to Mr. Graham's family.

Mr. H. L. POPHAM exhibited some interesting birds and eggs from the Yenesei River, including those of *Bernicla ruficollis*, *Limosa lapponica*, *Phalaropus fulicarius*, *Emberiza*

[March 31st, 1897.]

pusilla, *Turdus fuscatus*, *Geocichla sibirica* (probably), and *Stercorarius pomatorhinus*, the eggs of the last-named bird being almost the first authentic ones ever shown. Mr. Popham also showed the eggs of the Wood-Sandpiper laid in an old Fieldfare's nest, with a specimen of the bird shot therefrom.

Mr. J. G. MILLAIS exhibited a male *Phasianus colchicus* assuming female plumage, an extremely rare occurrence. He also showed a Wigeon (*Mareca penelope*) and some Common Redstarts (*Ruticilla phoenicura*) in which the same phenomenon was apparent.

Mr. JOHN WHITEHEAD, who was warmly welcomed by the Members on his return from his successful expedition to the Philippines, gave an account of his travels in Luzon.

Mr. WHITEHEAD also described a new Fruit-Pigeon from the highlands of Negros, as follows :—

PTILOCOLPA NIGRORUM, n. sp.

Similis *P. griseipectori* (Bp.), sed plagâ præpectoralî nigrâ, nec cinereâ, faciliè distinguenda. Long. tot. 13·0 poll., alæ 8·3, caudæ 4·8, tarsi 0·85.

Hab. Negros, Philippine Archipelago.

The adult female was shown to be similar to the female of *P. griseipectus*. The soft parts were as follows :—"Base of bill coral-pink, tipped with dull white; iris pale straw-yellow; feet coral-pink."

Mr. HUGH WARRAND exhibited a specimen of *Perdix montana*, shot by Mr. Peacock Edwardes in Nairnshire.

Mr. OGILVIE GRANT exhibited the female of the Luzon Hemipode (*Turnix whiteheadi*).

Mr. SCLATER explained two new technical terms, "Topomorph" and "Lipomorph," which he had recently used in his papers on geographical distribution. He proposed to denominate natural groups that were restricted to limited districts—and therefore characteristic of them by their presence—as "Topomorphs," and those natural groups that

on the contrary characterized districts by their absence as "Lipomorphs." Thus, in the class of Birds, *Struthio* and *Indicator* were topomorphs of the Ethiopian Region, and *Rhea* of the Neotropical Region. In the Australian Region the family of Woodpeckers (*Picidæ*) was a lipomorph, and *Menura* was a topomorph, &c.

Mr. SCLATER called attention to the issue of the first part of the division Aves (edited by Dr. Reichenow) of 'Das Tierreich.' It contained the *Podargidæ*, *Caprimulgidæ*, and *Macropterygidæ*, an excellent synopsis of which three families, together with an index, had been compressed by Mr. Hartert, the author of this section, into ninety-eight pages. Mr. Sclater lamented the use of the German language in this great undertaking, as it would render the book almost useless to many ornithologists in England and the United States. It would, in his opinion, have been much better to have employed Latin—the universal language of science, known to every properly educated person in the world—in a work of this cosmopolitan character.

The next Meeting of the Club will take place on Wednesday, the 21st of April, 1897, at the Restaurant Frascati, 32 Oxford Street; the Dinner at 7 P.M.

(Signed)

R. BOWDLER SHARPE,
Editor.

HOWARD SAUNDERS,
Sec. & Treas.

BULLETIN

OF THE

BRITISH ORNITHOLOGISTS' CLUB.

No. XLIV.

THE forty-third Meeting of the Club was held at the Restaurant Frascati, 32 Oxford Street, on Wednesday, the 21st of April, 1897.

Chairman: P. L. SCLATER, F.R.S.

Members present:—PHILIP CROWLEY, W. E. DE WINTON, W. R. OGILVIE GRANT, ERNST HARTERT, SIR HERBERT MAXWELL, Bart., M.P., DR. ST. GEORGE MIVART, F.R.S., H. J. PEARSON, FRANK PENROSE, HOWARD SAUNDERS (*Treasurer*), R. BOWDLER SHARPE (*Editor*), W. B. TEGETMEIER, W. F. URWICK, JOHN YOUNG.

Visitors: Admiral the Rt. Hon. Sir JOHN DALRYMPLE HAY, Bart., K.C.B., DR. CUTHBERT CHRISTY, F. E. MUGFORD.

Mr. OSBERT SALVIN, F.R.S., who had recently examined the collection of Tufted Owlets in the British Museum, communicated the following descriptions of species believed by him to be undescribed:—

SCOPS INGENS, n. sp.

Similis *S. brasiliæ*, et eodem modo coloratus, sed ubique saturatior et valdè major. Long. tot. 10·5 poll., alæ 8·2.

Hab. Ecuador.

SCOPS SANCTÆ-CATARINÆ, n. sp.

Similis *S. guatemalæ*, gastræo absque colore flavo insignis, pectoris colore clarè definito, sed ab hac specie et a

[April 30th, 1897.]

S. brasiliانو plumis auricularibus longis, harum pogonio interno pallido facillè distinguendus. Long. tot. 10·5 poll., alæ 7·8.

Hab. Southern Brazil.

SCOPS RORAIMÆ, n. sp.

S. similis S. guatemalæ, sed minor, et ab hac specie et a *S. brasiliانو* maculis quadratis albis primariorum distinguendus. Long. tot. 8·0 poll., alæ 5·9.

Hab. Roraima, British Guiana.

Mr. SALVIN also wished to describe a new species of *Selasphorus* from Costa Rica as

SELASPHORUS UNDERWOODI, n. sp.

S. ardenti similis, rectricibus mediis ferè ad apicem utrinque rufo marginatis, areâ medianâ angustiore purpureo-nigricante et ad apicem viridi leviter lavatâ; rostro multo brevior. Long. tota circa 2·9 poll., alæ 1·45, caudæ 1·05, rostri a rictu 0·55.

Hab. Irazu, Costa Rica (*C. F. Underwood*).

Obs. Mr. Underwood has sent us a single male specimen of this *Selasphorus*, which he shot on the Volcano of Irazu on the 20th Nov., 1896. At first I thought it a fully adult specimen of *Selasphorus ardens*, but its short bill (0·55 instead of 0·65) and slightly differently coloured tail have convinced me that it is a local form of that bird which may well be separated. The colouring of the throat is slightly tarnished, that of the type of *S. ardens* being very bright, some of the feathers not being fully grown; they are, however, rather longer in the present bird, due, no doubt, to their being fully grown. The types of *S. ardens*, which, I believe, are still the only examples known, came from Castillo, in the State of Panama.

On behalf of Mr. G. H. CATON HAIGH, Mr. SAUNDERS exhibited a specimen of the Water-Pipit (*Anthus spipoletta*), shot near the mouth, and on the Carnarvonshire side, of the Glaslyn, North Wales, on the 5th of this month by Mr Haigh. This was the first recorded occurrence for the west side of Great Britain. Mr. Saunders called attention to the fact

that there was white at the tips of the *second* pair of tail-feathers (as well as on the first pair) at all ages in the Water-Pipit, but never so in *Anthus obscurus*, nor in the Scandinavian *A. rupestris*.

Mr. PHILIP CROWLEY exhibited an interesting albino specimen of a Starling (*Sturnus vulgaris*) which had been shot at Merstham, near Reigate, on the 28th of February last.

Mr. ERNST HARTERT exhibited an example of a new species of Humming-Bird, which he described as follows :—

PHAETHORNIS STUARTI, n. sp.

Top of the head brown, with more or less of a metallic green gloss. Hind-neck, interscapulum, back, and upper wing-coverts metallic green. Rump and upper tail-coverts rusty cinnamon. Rectrices dark purplish brown, with dark bronzy-green bases and white tips, the central pair about 10 millimetres longer than the next, and nearly all bronzy green with white tips. Wings deep purplish brown. Chin and upper throat buffy white or whitish buff. Rest of under surface tawny ochraceous, the under tail-coverts lighter, almost white. Breast with a bunch of broad and elongated feathers of a bronzy-brown colour, with paler edges and a sub-terminal darker line. Auriculars black. A whitish-buff superciliary line, beginning above the eye, but not before. Maxilla and tip of mandible black; mandible, except the tip, yellowish flesh-colour (in skin). Total length about 95 mm.; wing 41–42; tail—central rectrices 38–39, next pair 9–10 mm. shorter, lateral pair only about 15–17; bill 22–23.

Mr. Hartert made the following remarks :—

“This new species belongs to the section of the genus *Phaethornis* which most authors separate as *Pygmornis*. In the *Pygmornis* section it must be grouped with the species which have a dark pectoral zone (Section *b* in the ‘Key’ of *Pygmornis*, Salvin, Cat. B. xvi. p. 280). From the three forms in that section described in the ‘Catalogue of Birds’ it differs principally in having broad *white* tips to the rectrices, and in its *large size*. The tail beneath is darker

and more blackish, the under tail-coverts light, the chin and upper throat whitish. It differs from *P. riojæ*, Berlepsch, principally in having no black on the chin at all.

"Several examples of this new species were collected at Salinas, on the Beni River in Eastern Bolivia, by Mr. Arthur Maxwell Stuart, in whose honour it was named. The same gentleman found *Phaethornis pygmaeus nigrinctus* (Lawr.) in the hills of San Augustin, in Eastern Bolivia, at about 3500 feet elevation."

Mr. ERNST HARTERT exhibited some of the new species of birds which were in the collection recently sent by Mr. Alfred Everett from Flores, viz.: *Pachycephala nudigula*, Hartert, a species remarkable for a large bare red spot on the throat; *Pnoepyga everetti*, Rothschild, which further extended the distribution of that genus; *Zosterops crassirostris* and *Z. superciliaris*, Hartert, two fine and very distinct forms of the large genus *Zosterops*; *Micræca oscillans*, Hartert, a new Flycatcher of, at present, somewhat doubtful affinities; *Brachypteryx floris*, *Orthonocichla everetti*, and *Cryptolopha montis floris*, subsp. nov., very closely allied to *C. montis*.

The Hon. WALTER ROTHSCHILD sent for exhibition a specimen of *Æstelata hæsitata* (Kuhl), a male, killed at Verona Beach, on Oneida Lake, N.Y., on August 28th, 1893, by the Rev. G. A. Biederman, of Utica, N.Y., who had presented it to Mr. Alex. H. Moore, by whom it had been mounted.

Mr. ROTHSCHILD also sent a skin of *Paradisea intermedia*, De Vis. This form was intermediate between *Paradisea angustæ-victoriæ*, Cab., which it resembled on the upper surface, and *P. raggiana*, ScL., to which it was similar below. Specimens of the two latter species were shown for comparison.

Mr. ROTHSCHILD further sent for exhibition skins of *Ruticilla erythrogastra*, Güld., from the Caucasus, and *R. grandis*, Gould, from Central Asia; species which had generally

(for example, by Dresser, Jerdon, Seebohm, and Oates) been confounded, but which proved to be distinct. Further notes on these species would be found in the forthcoming number of 'Novitates Zoologicae.'

Dr. BOWDLER SHARPE exhibited a skeleton of *Paramythia montium*, which had been forwarded to the British Museum by Mr. De Vis, of the Brisbane Museum. Sir Wm. Macgregor had procured two specimens of this species from Mount Scratclley, where it was not uncommon, and had sent them to Mr. De Vis in spirits.

Paramythia montium was described by Mr. De Vis in 1892, and was referred to the *Sturnidæ*, but the characters of the genus appeared to be so aberrant that in a notice of the genus published by Dr. Sclater in the 'Ibis' for 1893 (p. 243) the latter gentleman proposed that a separate family, *Paramythiidae*, should be established for it, "coming nearest to the *Ampelidae* and some of the *Dicaeidae*." About the same time, and quite independently, Dr. Sharpe (Zool. Rec. xxix. Aves, p. 50) had also relegated *Paramythia* to a distinct family near the *Eulabetidae*.

The wings were not perfect in the specimen examined by Dr. Sclater, who came to the conclusion that there were only nine primary-quills; but that this was a mistake has already been shown by Mr. Hartert (Nov. Zool. iii. p. 13), and in the wing now exhibited by Dr. Sharpe it was clearly perceptible that the first primary was present, though very minute, and attended by a smaller covert. Thus *Paramythia* was evidently a ten-primaried bird and had a Starling-like wing. An examination of the base of the skull showed that in the form of this portion of the cranium the palate was Starling-like and had a spinous process on the exterior edge of the palatines: indeed, the skull of *Paramythia* was extremely like that of *Calornis*.

Thus, although the genus *Paramythia* appeared to be an aberrant kind of Starling, with long slender legs and an unbroken lamina on the front aspect of the tarsus, yet the structure of the skull and the number of primaries seemed

to refer *Paramythia* to the neighbourhood of *Calornis*, which, however, had very big feet and a scutellated tarsus. In appearance there was much which made *Paramythia* resemble a Cuckoo-Shrike, and one genus of *Campophagidæ*, viz. *Campochæra*, suggested a sort of relationship, as it had also the sheath of the tarsus entire; but, on the other hand, there were no spiny shafts to the feathers of the rump in *Paramythia*, so that the latter could never be called a Campophagine bird. The skull, too, of *Graucalus* was somewhat of a Laniine type, with the spinous process of the hinder part of the palatine bones developed on the inner posterior angle, though this process appeared to be very broad and blunt in *Graucalus*.

Dr. SHARPE exhibited a specimen of Chernel's Wood-Lark (*Lullula cherneli*), which had been sent to him for examination by Mr. Georg von Almásy, who had written a paper on the form called *Alauda arborea cherneli* by Prazák, in 'Aquila' (vol. iii. p. 209). The characters of this supposed race of *Lullula arborea* were the paler coloration of the upper parts, with less admixture of rufous, the white eyebrow, chin, breast, and abdomen, the whiter edgings to the primaries, upper wing-coverts, bastard-wing, and the whiter spots on the tail-feathers. The bill was also said to be longer.

Specimens agreeing with the Hungarian example of *L. cherneli* sent by Mr. von Almásy were in the British Museum from the following localities:—Gozna, Taurus, Jan. 1 (*C. G. Danford*); Anascha, Taurus, March 18, April 7 (*C. G. D.*); Alamut, Anatolia, Feb. (*C. G. D.*); Seville, Spain, Feb. 20 (*H. Saunders*); Gibraltar, April 21 (*L. H. Irby*); Tangiers, June (*S. G. Reid*).

Dr. Sharpe drew attention to the fact that these pale-coloured specimens had nearly all been shot in spring and summer, when the plumage is rather bleached and worn, and that the colour of the specimens killed in other parts of Europe in autumn and winter was certainly darker, but that it was impossible to distinguish a male killed in July in Southern

Norway from the series of *L. cherneli*. Dr. Sharpe was driven to the conclusion that *L. cherneli* had been founded on specimens in bleached plumage from somewhat arid localities, and he believed that winter-killed individuals in freshly moulted plumage would resemble the ordinary *L. arborea*, while breeding specimens of the latter certainly were not to be distinguished from *L. cherneli*.

Dr. SHARPE exhibited some Weaver-Birds from British Central Africa, sent by Mr. F. J. Jackson from Mau. The female had been described as *Heterhyphantes stephanophorus* in 1891 by Dr. Sharpe, and now Mr. Jackson forwarded the male, which had a rufous head, and was apparently identical with *Symplectes croconotus* of Sjöstedt, from the Cameroons. Of the difference of the sexes in this Weaver-Bird Mr. Jackson said "there is not the slightest question," and he had sent two pairs procured at different places. The presence of a West-African form like *S. croconotus* was less astonishing than appeared at first sight, as Mr. Jackson's collection also contained a specimen of the West-African *Lanicterus quiscalinus*.

Mr. JOHN WHITEHEAD sent a description of a new Fly-catcher from the island of Negros, Philippines:—

MUSCICAPULA NIGRORUM, n. sp.

♂ *adult*. Most nearly allied to *M. luzoniensis*, Grant. The general colour of the upper parts less grey, but dark slaty blue as in *M. hyperythra*. The chin is pure white, the rest of the underparts richer orange-buff; belly white.

♀ *adult*. General colour of the upper parts dull slate-grey, and not greyish olive-brown as in the female of *M. luzoniensis*; lores and feathers round the eye whiter; breast and underparts as in the male of *M. luzoniensis*.

Hab. Canloan Volcano, 6000 ft., Central Negros, Philippines.

Mr. TEGETMEIER exhibited a very large egg of a Goose with another perfect egg inside it.

[The TREASURER gave notice that he should be absent, in Norway, during May and June. His duties had been kindly undertaken by Mr. EDWARD BIDWELL, to whom all communications should be addressed, at 1 Trig Lane, Upper Thames Street, E.C.]

The next Meeting of the Club will be held on the 19th of May, 1897, at the Restaurant Frascati, 32 Oxford Street; the Dinner at 7 P.M.

(Signed)

P. L. SCLATER,	R. BOWDLER SHARPE,	HOWARD SAUNDERS,
<i>Chairman.</i>	<i>Editor.</i>	<i>Sec. & Treas.</i>

BULLETIN

OF THE

BRITISH ORNITHOLOGISTS' CLUB.

No. XLV.

THE forty-fourth meeting of the Club was held at the Restaurant Frascati, 32 Oxford Street, on Wednesday, the 19th of May, 1897.

Chairman: P. L. SCLATER, F.R.S.

Vice-Chairman: P. CROWLEY.

Members present:—E. BIDWELL, W. E. DE WINTON, Dr. F. DREWITT, E. HARTERT, G. E. LODGE, Sir HERBERT MAXWELL, Bart., M.P., R. NESHAM, E. W. OATES, F. PENROSE, E. LORT PHILLIPS, R. BOWDLER SHARPE (*Editor*), E. CAVENDISH TAYLOR, W. B. TEGETMEIER, N. F. TICEHURST, H. M. UPCHER, H. M. WALLIS, W. WATKINS, L. P. WILLIAMS, C. A. WRIGHT.

Visitors: F. CURTIS, E. A. FITCH, A. J. FITCH, DONALDSON GUNN, ARTHUR HOLLAND, F. C. SELOUS, H. E. S. UPCHER.

Dr. F. PENROSE alluded to the loss which the Club had recently sustained by the death of its Member, C. BYGRAVE WHARTON.

The Hon. WALTER ROTHSCHILD sent some skins of the common Yellow-plumed Bird of Paradise (*Paradisea minor*, Shaw), of which he recognized three sub-species. The typical form inhabited Dutch New Guinea, and he possessed a good series from Arfak, Etna Bay, and Kapaur. It was a small bird, with the wing about 177-189 mm., the tail 130-136, the ornamental plumes from 400 to 460 mm.

[May 29th, 1897.]

The second form, from Jobi Island in Geelvink Bay, differed in its larger size and longer and fuller side-plumes; the wing measured 196–200 mm., the tail 145–150, the ornamental plumes 530–610 mm. in length. Mr. Rothschild proposed to call this form *P. minor jobiensis*, subsp. nov., and of this bird he had five skins, collected by Dr. Guillemard and others.

The third was the bird from German New Guinea. It was of the size of the typical form, from which it differed in being darker vinous-brown on the breast, while the chest-feathers were more crisp and produced a slight shield-like appearance. The yellow bar on the wing was also less distinct in this form. This was the *P. finschi* of A. B. Meyer, although the characters given by him for its distinction were apparently not the most striking. Mr. Rothschild had a number of specimens collected by the late Mr. Kubary and Captains Webster and Cotton.

Mr. ERNST HARTERT exhibited the second known specimen of a rare Humming-Bird (*Iolæma luminosa*, Elliot), the type of which, hitherto unique, was in the British Museum.

Mr. E. HARTERT also exhibited a remarkable variety of the Waxwing (*Ampelis garrulus*) from Lapland, with the wax-like tips to the secondaries yellow instead of red.

Mr. E. LORT PHILLIPS exhibited some specimens of birds collected by him during his recent trip to the Goolis Mountains in Somaliland. Among the interesting species obtained by him were the following:—*Hyphantornis speki*, *Irania gutturalis*, *Ruticilla semirufa*, *Monticola rufocinerea*, *Zosterops habessinica*, *Anthus sordidus*, *Mirafra gilletti*, *Sylvia blanfordi*, *S. nana*, *Burnesia somalica*, *Lophoceros mediana*, and *Pternistes infuscatus*.

He described the following species as new to science:—

CALENDULA FREMANTLII, n. sp.

C. rostro crasso insignis: rufescens, notæi plumis latè nigricanti-brunneo striatis: pileo vix cristato: regione paroticâ rufescente, maculâ magnâ albâ notatâ: lineâ nigrâ per

oculos ductâ: gutture et colli lateribus albis, striâ malari nigrâ distinctâ: subtus pallidè isabellina, pectore et hypochondriis rufescentibus, vix brunneo vel rufo striatis: maculâ nigrâ distinctâ ad latera præpectoris positâ. Long. tot. 5·7 poll., culm. 0·7, alæ 3·6, caudæ 1·75, tarsi 0·7.

RHYNCHOSTRUTHUS LOUISÆ, n. sp.

Similis *R. socotrano*, sed minor, rostro debiliore et genis cinerascentibus nec albis distinguendus. Long. tot. 5·0 poll., culm. 0·5, alæ 3·05, caudæ 1·6, tarsi 0·65.

TRICHOLEMA BLANDI, n. sp.

T. simile *T. stigmatothoraci*, sed maculâ rubrâ pectorali nullâ, pileo et gutturiis plumis distinctè albido terminatis facilè distinguendum. Long. tot. 4·6 poll., culm. 0·6, alæ 2·5, caudæ 1·3, tarsi 0·8.

Dr. BOWDLER SHARPE described a new species of Francolin from the Wagga Mountains in Somaliland, obtained by Mr. Lort Phillips at a height of 9000 feet:—

FRANCOLINUS LORTI, n. sp.

F. similis *F. gutturali* et *F. uluensi*, plagâ albâ ad latera colli, nigro punctatâ: maculis præpectoralibus saturatè castaneis, rachidibus angustè nigris: hypochondriis saturatè castaneo notatis. Long. tot. 12·5 poll., alæ 6·6.

Dr. SHARPE described two species of Owls as follows:—

SYRNIUM NIGRICANTIUS, n. sp.

S. simile *S. woodfordi*, sed suprâ nigricanti-brunneum, vix albo stellatum: superciliis et facie laterali purè niveis: præpectore nigricanti-brunneo, vix albo aut fulvo fasciato. Long. tot. 13·5 poll., alæ 9·8.

Hab. Mpapwa, E. Africa. Typus in Mus. Brit.

NINOX EVERETTI, n. sp.

Similis *N. reyi*, sed maculis pallidis primariorum paucis fulvescentibus, minimè albo quadratim notatis, et abdomine, hypochondriis et tibiis ochrascenti-fulvis, nec albis brunneo maculatis, distinguenda. Long. tot. 9·5 poll., alæ 7·7.

Hab. Siassi Island, Sulu Archipelago (*A. H. Everett*).]

Dr. BOWDLER SHARPE exhibited the skin of an apparently new species of *Dicaeum* from Mount Masarang in Northern Celebes, collected by Mr. Charles Hose. It was an intermediate form between *D. nigrimentum*, Salvad., and *D. pryeri*, Sharpe. The name proposed was

DICAËUM HOSII, n. sp.

D. similis D. nigrimento, sed gulâ superiore totâ nigrâ distinguendum. Long. tot. 3·2 poll., alæ 1·8.

Dr. SHARPE also exhibited some specimens of birds recently sent by Mr. F. J. Jackson from Uganda, amongst them being several typical West-African forms. The West-African element in the regions of the Upper Nile district had already been demonstrated by Dr. Sharpe in his account of Bohndorff's collections in the Niam-niam country (Journ. Linn. Soc. xvii. pp. 419-441), and by Dr. Reichenow in his treatise on the birds collected by Dr. Stuhlmann and Emin Pasha on the Victoria Nyanza (J. f. O. 1892, pp. 1-60). Mr. Jackson had, however, been able to add several West-African species to the Avifauna of Uganda, among them being the following:—*Campophaga phænicea* (N'tebi), *Bias musicus* (N'tebi), *Nicator chloris* (Busoga, N'tebi), *Malimbus rubricollis* (N'tebi), *Melocichla mentalis* (N'tebi), *Burnesia leucopogon*, &c.

The following species were described by Dr. SHARPE as new:—

DRYODROMAS RUFIDORSALIS, n. sp.

D. similis D. smithii, sed pileo et notæo toto rufescente, illo saturatiore distinguenda. Long. tot. 5·3 poll., alæ 2·0.

Hab. River Tsavo, Sept. 20, 1894 (*F. J. Jackson*).

LAMPROTORNIS BREVICAUDUS, n. sp.

L. similis L. porphyroptero, sed valdè minor et caudâ conspicuè breviori distinguenda. Long. tot. 11·5 poll., alæ 5·8.

Hab. Elgéyu (*F. J. Jackson*).

The differences in the length of the tail between the

Abyssinian birds and those from British Central Africa were so well marked that they seemed to constitute two distinct forms. The tail of *L. porphyropterus* measured 7·7–7·8 inches, but that of *L. brevicaudus* only reached 5·05–5·9 inches. (Cf. Sharpe, Ibis, 1891, p. 240.)

Mr. JOHN WHITEHEAD sent for exhibition a series of specimens of the genus *Dendrophila* from the Philippine Islands, and pointed out the following interesting facts:—

The Philippine species of *Dendrophila* could be divided into two sections, viz. those with a white loreal spot and a greenish bill, and those with black lores and a red bill. To the last section belonged the birds from Palawan and Balabac, called *D. frontalis* by Sharpe. *D. corallipes* from Borneo, with its red bill and red legs, was quite distinct.

All the Philippine birds had a white loreal spot, greenish bill, and dark greenish-brown legs. Two species had been described, *D. aenochlamys*, Sharpe, and *D. mesoleuca*, Ogilvie Grant. The former had been described from a Guimaras specimen of Prof. Steere's. Mr. Whitehead showed that the same form was found in Cebu, Negros, and Panay, but that in Samar, Leyte, and Basilan a very much darker form occurred, which was worthy of separation on account of the suffusion of dark lilac over the whole of the under surface of the body. He proposed to call the Samar form

DENDROPHILA LILACEA, n. sp.

D. similis D. aenochlamydi, sed gastræo toto vividè lilascenti-vinaceo, nec lilascenti-brunneo, distinguenda.

Mr. Whitehead also showed that *D. mesoleuca* from the highlands of Luzon looked, at first sight, distinct enough; but on comparing a series from different elevations, it was clear that the bird from the coast-region and the lower elevations of the mountains showed very little difference from *D. aenochlamys*, but that, as higher elevations were reached, there appeared more and more white on the back, and more white on the breast, until typical *D. mesoleuca* was reached.

Messrs. C. B. RICKETT and J. DE LA TOUCHE sent for exhibition the following apparently new species of birds from China :—

BRACHYPTERYX SINENSIS, Rickett, n. sp.

♂ similis *B. crurali* ♂, sed ubique pallidior : subtus pallidè cinerea : loris et fasciâ latâ anteoculari cinereis nec nigris distinguenda. Long. tot. 5·5 poll., culm. 0·6, alæ 2·6, caudæ 1·9, tarsi 1·15.

♀ similis *B. crurali* ♀, fronte, facie laterali et supercilio olivaceo-brunneis, nec rufescentibus : caudâ olivaceo nec rufo lavatâ distinguenda. Long. tot. 5·4 poll., alæ 2·6.

Hab. Kuatun, N.W. Fohkien.

PROPARUS GUTTATICOLLIS, De La Touche, n. sp.

Similis *P. striaticolli*, Verr., sed loris albis, pileo nuchaque brunneis concoloribus, minimè nigro notatis, fasciâ fumosâ circumdatis. Long. tot. 4·6 poll., culm. 0·5, alæ 2·05, caudæ 2·1, tarsi 0·95.

Hab. Kuatun.

YUHINA PALLIDA, De La Touche, n. sp.

Y. similis *Y. nigrimento*, sed ubique pallidior : notæo cinerascens : subtus candida, vix fulvescente tincta.

Hab. Kuatun. (Cf. H. H. Slater, *Ibis*, 1897, p. 173.)

LEPOCESTES SINENSIS, Rickett, n. sp.

♂ [vix ad.]. Similis *L. pyrrhotidi*, Hodgs., sed pileo pallidè brunnescenti-fulvo, nec castaneo, striolato : interscapulio nigro, fasciis angustis rufescenti-fulvis notato : remigibus et rectricibus pallidè castaneis, fasciis equidistantibus nigris transversim notatis. Long. tot. 11·2 poll., culm. 1·7, alæ 5·7, caudæ 3·3, tarsi 1·1.

Hab. Kuatun.

Mr. SLATER exhibited a set of fourteen photographs containing figures of the eggs and nests of the birds of North Queensland which had been transmitted to him by Mr. D. Le Souëf, of Melbourne, and called special attention to those representing *Podargus papuensis*, *Lalage leucomelena*, and *Sterna anæsthesia*, the last being placed under a *Pandanus* palm. These photographs had been sent by Mr. Le Souëf

to illustrate his papers on new or rare Australian birds' eggs to be published in 'The Ibis.'

Mr. N. F. TICEHURST exhibited a specimen of the Icterine Warbler (*Hypolais icterina*) shot on the 1st of May, 1897, at Burwash, in Sussex.

Dr. F. PENROSE exhibited a beautiful example of an albino Skylark (*Alauda arvensis*) obtained on Salisbury Plain during the past winter.

Mr. H. E. S. UPCHER exhibited some eggs of the South-African Goshawk (*Astur tachiro*) taken in the Drakensberg Mountains in Natal.

The next Meeting of the Club will be held on the 16th of June, 1897, at the Restaurant Frascati, 32 Oxford Street; the Dinner at 7 P.M.

(Signed)

P. L. SCLATER, Chairman.	PHILIP CROWLEY, Vice-Chairman.	R. BOWDLER SHARPE, Editor.
E. BIDWELL, Acting Sec. & Treas.		

BULLETIN

OF THE

BRITISH ORNITHOLOGISTS' CLUB.

No. XLVI.

THE forty-fifth meeting of the Club was held at the Restaurant Frascati, 32 Oxford Street, on Wednesday, the 16th of June, 1897.

Chairman: Dr. F. PENROSE.

Members present:—E. BIDWELL, W. F. BROCKHOLES, Dr. F. D. DREWITT, Dr. H. O. FORBES, W. R. OGILVIE GRANT, E. HARTERT, Col. P. W. L'ESTRANGE, G. E. LODGE, A. H. MACPHERSON, E. NEALE, R. NESHAM, H. NOBLE, C. E. PEARSON, Hon. L. W. ROTHSCHILD, Hon. N. C. ROTHSCHILD, H. F. WITHERBY, J. YOUNG.

Visitors: Captain BACON, W. W. FOWLER, Dr. E. GWYNN, Prof. F. WERNER, C. A. WITCHELL.

The Hon. WALTER ROTHSCHILD exhibited a specimen of Cory's Bittern (*Ardetta neoxena*, Cory), from Canada. It was believed to be the only specimen in any museum in England. Some ornithologists had regarded this bird as a melanism of *Ardetta exilis*, but it was now generally admitted to be a distinct species. (See A. O. U. Check-List, 1895, p. 70.)

Mr. ROTHSCHILD exhibited a pair of *Eclectus cornelia*, Bonap. This fine Parrot had hitherto been known only from females which had died in captivity; but recently Mr. W. Doherty and Mr. A. H. Everett had collected a

[June 30th, 1897.]

series, including examples of both sexes, in the interior of the island of Sumba.

Mr. W. ROTHSCHILD also showed skins of *Psitteuteles weberi*, Büttik., and *P. euteles*. Numbers of the latter species had been collected by Dr. A. R. Wallace both in Timor and Flores, while the former had been first obtained in Flores by Prof. Weber, and more recently by Mr. Everett. Prof. Mivart, in his 'Monograph of the Loriidæ,' had united the two species, because both occurred in Flores. It seemed remarkable that both species should inhabit the same island, and it was suggested that possibly Dr. Wallace's specimens of *P. euteles* bore an erroneous locality; but, in either case, the two species were perfectly distinct, differing much in colour and size.

Mr. ROTHSCHILD made further remarks on Prof. Steere's type of *Paradisea minor*, var. *albescens*, Musschenbr. It was shown to be a "made up" specimen—part being a male of the typical *P. minor*, showing the white abdomen characteristic of the immature bird, to which had been added the long side plumes of a male of *P. minor jobiensis*, Rothschild.

Mr. ROTHSCHILD likewise informed the Meeting that he had purchased the collection of the late Christian Ludwig Brehm. This once-celebrated collection of one of the fathers of German ornithology had unfortunately suffered from neglect, being kept in a small country house, but it still contained nearly all the types of the many "species" and "subspecies" made by C. L. Brehm. It had been customary among British and Continental authors to place Brehm's numerous names as synonyms of our well-known European species; but, although this might be right in the majority of cases, recent investigations had shown that some of Brehm's forms, such as *Nucifraga*, *Parus*, *Certhia*, *Galerita*, and others, deserved subspecific and even specific rank.

This was the last Meeting of the Session.

The next Meeting of the Club will be held on the 20th of October, 1897, at the Restaurant Frascati, 32 Oxford Street ; the Dinner at 7 P.M.

(Signed)

F. PENROSE,
Chairman.

W. R. OGILVIE GRANT,
Acting Editor.

E. BIDWELL,
Acting Sec. & Treas.

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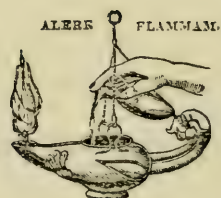
BULLETIN
OF THE
BRITISH ORNITHOLOGISTS' CLUB.

EDITED BY
R. BOWDLER SHARPE, LL.D.

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PREFACE.

ALTHOUGH the Club has sustained the loss of two of its most eminent members in Mr. Osbert Salvin and Mr. Alfred Everett, as well as of a very promising recruit in Mr. Daniel Meinertzhagen, the number of Members continues to increase, so that the names on the rota have reached the satisfactory number of 123.

The Club is again to be congratulated on the number and importance of the contributions which have been discussed at its Meetings.

(Signed)

R. BOWDLER SHARPE,

Editor.

July 30th, 1898.

ERRATA.

Page iv, line 27, for *Osculatia purpurea* read *Osculatia purpurata*.
,, xix, ,, 3, for *Gallinula major* read *Gallinago major*.

RULES

OF THE

BRITISH ORNITHOLOGISTS' CLUB.

(As amended 20th April, 1898.)



I. This Club was founded for the purpose of facilitating the social intercourse of Members of the British Ornithologists' Union. Any Member of that Union can become a Member of this Club on payment (to the Treasurer) of an entrance fee of *Five Shillings* and a subscription of *Five Shillings* for the current Session. Resignation of the Union involves resignation of the Club.

II. Members who have not paid their subscriptions before the last Meeting of the Session shall cease, *ipso facto*, to be Members of the Club, but may be reinstated on payment of arrears, *and* a new entrance fee.

III. Members of the B. O. U. can attend the Meetings of the Club as Visitors, but every Member of the Club introducing a Member of the B. O. U. as a Visitor (to dinner or to the Meeting afterwards) shall pay *One Shilling* to the Treasurer on each occasion.

IV. The Club shall meet, as a rule, on the Third Wednesday in every Month, from October to June inclusive, at such hour and place as may be arranged by the Committee. At these Meetings papers upon ornithological subjects shall be read, specimens exhibited, and discussion invited.

V. An Abstract of the Proceedings of the B. O. C. shall be printed as soon as possible after each Meeting, under the title of the 'Bulletin of the British Ornithologists' Club,' and distributed gratis to every Member *who has paid his subscription*. Copies of this Bulletin shall be published and sold at *One Shilling* each.

VI. The affairs of this Club shall be managed by a Committee, to consist of the Editors of 'The Ibis,' the Editor of the 'Bulletin,' and the Secretary and Treasurer, *ex officio*; with three other Members, one of whom shall be changed every year. The Committee shall have power to make and alter Bye-laws.

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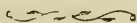
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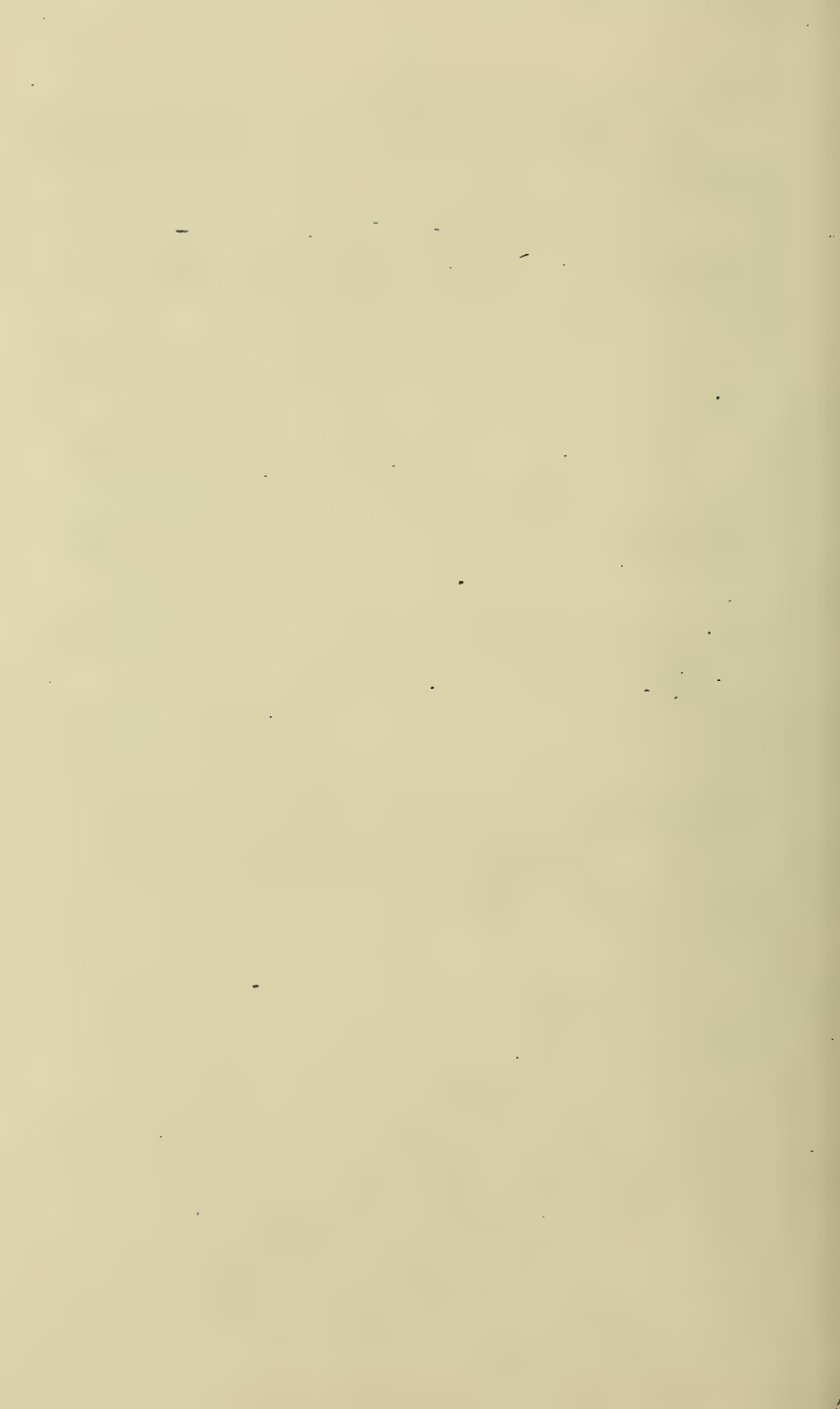
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BULLETIN

OF THE

BRITISH ORNITHOLOGISTS' CLUB.

No. XLVII.

THE forty-sixth meeting of the Club was held at the Restaurant Frascati, 32 Oxford Street, on Wednesday, the 20th of October, 1897.

Chairman : PHILIP CROWLEY.

Members present :—A. V. APLIN, E. BIDWELL, J. L. BONHOTE, A. M. CHANCE, W. E. DE WINTON, H. E. DRESSER, Col. H. W. FEILDEN, F. W. FROHAWK, the Earl of GAINSBOROUGH, W. R. OGILVIE GRANT, G. H. C. HAIGH, E. HARTERT, Major A. P. LOYD, A. H. MACPHERSON, E. NEALE, R. NESHAM, E. W. OATES, C. E. PEARSON, H. J. PEARSON, F. PENROSE, M.D., T. DIGBY PIGOTT, C.B., H. L. POPHAM, P. RENDALL, M.D., H. SAUNDERS (*Treasurer*), R. BOWDLER SHARPE (*Editor*), Rev. H. H. SLATER, W. B. TEGETMEIER, N. F. TICEHURST, A. B. R. TREVOR-BATTYE, H. M. WALLIS, L. A. WILLIAMS, C. J. WILSON, H. F. WITHERBY, C. A. WRIGHT.

Visitors : W. AULD, A. BEAUMONT, Count von BERLEPSCH, R. A. CROWLEY, F. CURTIS, C. E. FAGAN, H. GRÖNVOLD, A. E. HAMERTON, Rev. A. P. MORRES, W. NEWALL.

THE TREASURER announced that the first business of the evening was to elect the officers of the Club for the ensuing

[October 30th, 1897.]

year, and the following were unanimously elected by a show of hands :—

Chairman : P. L. SCLATER, F.R.S.

Vice-Chairmen : { PHILIP CROWLEY.
H. J. PEARSON.

Mr. EUGENE W. OATES was elected a Member of the Committee in the place of Mr. T. Digby Pigott, C.B., who retired by rotation.

The TREASURER also made a few remarks on the present status of the Club, and was pleased to be able to tell the Members that its financial position was highly satisfactory.

The Annual Address was postponed until the next Meeting of the Club, owing to the absence of the Chairman in consequence of domestic bereavement. An unanimous vote of sympathy with Dr. Sclater on the loss of his son, Capt. Bertram Sclater, was passed by the Meeting.

Mr. H. L. POPHAM, who was warmly applauded by his brother-members of the Club, made some remarks on his recent journey to the Yenesei, and exhibited a clutch of four eggs of the Curlew Sandpiper (*Ancylochilus subarquatus*) which he had taken, along with the female bird shot from the nest. These were the first authentic eggs on record.

Mr. H. J. PEARSON and Colonel FEILDEN, who also received a hearty welcome from the members, gave a brief account of their expedition to Novaya Zemlya during the summer, a full account of which will appear in 'The Ibis' for January 1898. Mr. Pearson exhibited a series of clutches of the eggs of the Little Stint (*Tringa minuta*), as well as some beautiful photographs of nests and eggs of the various birds observed on the voyage. The narrative of the trip was related by Colonel Feilden, and was rendered more than usually interesting by the ample set of photographs taken by Mr. Pearson.

Count von BERLEPSCH exhibited his unique specimen of *Pipra opalizans*, Pelz., a wonderful bird from Pará, which will be figured in the next number of the 'Ibis'; also a set of skins of the interesting *Idiopsar brachyurus*, Cass., hitherto unique in the U.S. National Museum at Washington, and also a fine skin of *Chrysolampis chlorolæmus*, Elliot (= *Lampornis calolæma*, Elliot), of which the true locality had been unknown till now. It was received direct from Bahia, and was stated to be the third specimen known in collections. These birds will be spoken of at length in an article to be published by Count von Berlepsch in the next number of the 'Ibis.'

Count von BERLEPSCH also laid on the table specimens of three species from S.W. Colombia, viz., a new *Carpodectes*, a new Parrot of the genus *Pionopsitta*, and a new *Myiadestes* allied to *M. leucotis*, Tsch. These will be described in an article to be published in the forthcoming number of the 'Journal für Ornithologie.'

Lastly, Count von BERLEPSCH exhibited a fine new Tanager of the genus *Buthraupis*, recently sent by Mr. F. W. H. Rosenberg from North-western Ecuador, and named in honour of the Hon. Walter Rothschild. The unique specimen belongs to the Tring Museum.

He diagnosed it as follows:—

BUTHRAUPIS ROTHSCILDI, sp. n.

B. corpore supra subtusque cum alis caudaque extus obscure nigro-cyaneis, uropygio lætiore; capite gulaque nigrescentibus, torque jugulari lato pulchre aurantio-flavo; tectricibus, subalaribus subcaudalibusque necnon hypochondriis pure flavis; rostro pedibusque nigris. Al. 94 mm., caud. 53, culm. 16 $\frac{3}{4}$, tars. 23.

Hab. Cachabé, N.W. Ecuador (500 feet).

This bird was stated to be allied to *B. edwardsi* of Elliot from S.W. Colombia, but is quite different in showing the back and belly blue-black, the sides of the head black, and the under tail- and wing-coverts bright yellow, all these

parts being olive-green in the other species, and in having a broad band of fine orange-yellow on the breast, there being but a small yellow spot in the middle of the latter in *B. edwardsi*.

Mr. ERNST HARTERT drew attention to the fact that there was in the British Isles a species of Tit hitherto overlooked by all observers. This was the *Parus salicarius* of C. L. Brehm, which had been only quite recently rediscovered in Germany by Herr Kleinschmidt, who had not only found old specimens in the British Museum, but the Tring Museum had recently been able to get several fresh specimens from England. *Parus salicarius* differed from the Common British Marsh-Tit in having the crown of a less glossy and more brownish black, the flanks strongly washed with rufous, and the dimensions of beak, wings, and tail were slightly different; its call-note also was different, and it seemed to keep strictly to dark, shadowy, and swampy places. These differences were, as Kleinschmidt rightly said, comparatively not smaller than those between a Carrion-Crow and a Rook, which nobody now thought of uniting. It was Mr. Hartert's opinion that *P. salicarius* was a distinct species; but Kleinschmidt seemed to think that the British *P. salicarius* might be superficially separated from the continental form; this, however, seemed still an open question.

Mr. HARTERT further exhibited a skin of the beautiful Pigeon called *Osculatia purpurea*, Salvad., from N. Ecuador. Only the type in the British Museum was hitherto known.

He also stated that Mr. Albert Meek had found *Paradisea intermedia* at Collingwood Bay in the north-eastern part of British New Guinea; and that Mr. Rothschild had received some more skins of *Macgregoria pulchra* from Mt. Scratchley.

He also exhibited a skin of a new species of *Tephros* from

the island of Ruk, in the Caroline group, which he characterized as follows:—

TEPHRAS RUKI, sp. n.

♂ ♀. Entirely sepia-brown, the inner webs of the remiges and under wing-coverts lighter, inclining to whitish; the primaries darker, the outer webs bordered with the same colour as the back. Bill black; iris red; tarsi and feet orange-rufous; claws mouse-brown. Total length 135–140 mm., wing 79–80, tail 52–53, culmen 21, tarsus 21. The female is a little smaller: wing 77–78 mm., tail 50, culmen 19. Native name “Nikildon.”

A new species of *Leptotriccus* was also exhibited by Mr. HARTERT, and described by him as follows:—

LEPTOTRICCUS FLAVIVENTRIS, sp. n.

Quite different from the other two known species of the genus, *L. sylvicola*, Licht., of Southern Brazil, and *L. superciliaris*, ScL. & Salv., of Central America. It differs from both in being of a uniform sulphur-yellow colour below, and in having two broad yellow bars across the wing, formed by the yellow tips to the longest and median wing-coverts. The crown is olive-green like the back, as in *L. sylvicola*, while *L. superciliaris* has the head and nape of a dark plumbeous shade. In the markings of the head and in other respects it agrees with its two congeners.

Hab. Ejido and Merida, Venezuela, April 1897 (*Mocquerys*).

The Hon. WALTER ROTHSCHILD sent for exhibition three new species of birds from Northern Ecuador, which he described as follows:—

CRYPTURUS BERLEPSCHI, sp. n.

Entirely brownish black, the abdomen and thighs vermiculated and washed with dull rufous brown; the under tail-coverts rusty red. Total length 300 mm., wing 180, tarsus 60, culmen 33.

Hab. Cachabé, N. Ecuador, 500 feet.

ODONTOPHORUS PARAMBÆ, sp. n.

♀ *ad.* Forehead, superciliary band, ear-coverts and a band under the eye, breast and abdomen bright chestnut; top of head, nape, wings, back, rump, and tail brownish black, irregularly vermiculated all over with yellowish brown; scapulars with a number of black patches; under wing-coverts brownish grey; flanks, thighs, and under tail-coverts dark brown, vermiculated and edged with rufous; chin, throat, and upper breast black, crossed on the lower throat by a broad white band. Total length about 200 mm., wings 145, tail 40, tarsus 42, culmen 24.

Hab. Paramba, N. Ecuador, 3500 feet.

NEMOSIA ROSENBERGI, sp. n.

Head, neck, and back scarlet, fading into paler orange-scarlet on the rump; upper tail-coverts dull scarlet; wings dark brown, the wing-coverts, outer webs of the primaries and secondaries rufous; under wing-coverts white, the inner edges of the quills salmon-pink. Under surface of body white, the centre of the abdomen and under tail-coverts bright orange-pink. Maxilla black, mandible whitish; feet greenish; iris brown. Total length about 120 mm., wing 69, tail 54, tarsus 15, culmen 15.

Hab. Cachabé, N. Ecuador, 500 feet.

Dr. BOWDLER SHARPE described the following species of birds from British East Africa:—

BURNESIA UGANDÆ, sp. n.

B. similis B. leucopogoni, Cab., sed abdomine imo et hypochondriis pallidè fulvescentibus, his minimè cinereis distinguenda. Long. tot. 2·7 poll., alæ 2·3, caudæ 2·45.

Hab. Ntebi, Uganda (*F. J. Jackson*). Tingasi (*Emin Pasha: Mus. Brit.*).

SYLVIELLA BARAKA, sp. n.

S. similis S. virenti, sed pileo fuscescenti-brunneo, supercilio pallidè isabellino, facie laterali fuscescente minimè rufà, gutture vix rufescente, et hypochondriis clarè schistaceis distinguenda. Long. tot. 3 poll., alæ 2.

Hab. Ntebi, Uganda (*F. J. Jackson*).

SYLVIELLA JACKSONI, sp. n.

S. similis *S. micrurae*, sed major, saturatiùs grisea, et facie laterali, mento et corpore subtùs toto saturatè vinaceis, abdomine quoque cervino distinguenda. Long. tot. 3·7 poll., alæ 2·5.

Hab. Kamassia (*F. J. Jackson*).

XENOCICHLA PALLIDIGULA, sp. n.

X. similis *X. flavicollis*, sed gulâ dilutè flavâ, remigibus rectricibusque grisescanti-brunneis, olivascanti-viridi marginatis, nec rufescenti-brunneis : subtus pallidè olivascens, gastreo medio albido, plumis mediallyter griseo striolatis, hypochondriis et subcaudalibus pallidè olivaceis, his latè albido marginatis distinguenda. Long. tot. 9 poll., alæ 4·15.

Hab. Ntebi (*F. J. Jackson*).

BARBATULA JACKSONI, sp. n.

B. similis *B. bilineatae*, sed gutture et pectoris summi lateribus schistaceo-griseis, tectricibus alarum et secundariis pallidè sulfureo marginatis, et hyponchondriis ochrascenti-brunneis distinguenda. Long. tot. 4·4 poll., alæ 2·4.

Hab. Mau (*F. J. Jackson*).

UROBRACHYA NIGRONOTATA, sp. n.

U. similis *U. phæniceæ*, sed tectricibus alarum majoribus cinnamomeo-rufis, latè nigro apicatis distinguenda. Long. tot. 6·5 poll., alæ 3·6.

Hab. Witu (*F. J. Jackson*).

Dr. SHARPE exhibited, on behalf of Mr. Claude W. Wyatt, a nest and eggs of the Reed-Bunting (*Emberiza schænielus*), which had been taken at Basford, near Banbury, in 1894. The season was a very wet one, and the birds had provided the nest with a lid made of horsehair, apparently for the better protection of the eggs.

Dr. SHARPE also exhibited a skin of *Lanius ludovicianus*, which had been procured in Andros Isl., Bahamas, by Mr. Neville Chamberlain.

In a few remarks on the present status of the Collection

of Birds in the British Museum, Dr. SHARPE informed the meeting that he had, on the 11th September last, completed his twenty fifth year of service in charge of the bird-collection of the British Museum, and that he estimated that the collection of skins had increased during that time from about 40,000 to 370,000, and the collection of eggs from about 6000 to 49,000 specimens.

Mr. TEGETMEIER exhibited a skin of a Pheasant, which he considered to be a hybrid between *Thaumalea picta* and *Phasianus colchicus*.

The Rev. H. H. SLATER exhibited and made remarks upon a sixth British example of the Barred Warbler (*Sylvia nisoria*), which he had obtained on the Norfolk coast on the 27th of August last. It was an adult female, which had evidently bred during the last season, as was shown by the condition of the ovary and oviduct. He thought that by careful search the Barred Warbler might be found to be a breeding species in the Eastern Counties.

The next Meeting of the Club will be held on Wednesday, the 17th of November 1897, at the Restaurant Frascati, 32 Oxford Street; the Dinner at 7 P.M.

(Signed)

PHILIP CROWLEY,
Chairman.

R. BOWDLER SHARPE,
Editor.

HOWARD SAUNDERS,
Sec. & Treas.

BULLETIN

OF THE

BRITISH ORNITHOLOGISTS' CLUB.

No. XLVIII.

THE forty-seventh Meeting of the Club was held at the Restaurant Frascati, 32 Oxford Street, on Wednesday, the 17th of November, 1897.

Chairman : P. L. SCLATER, F.R.S.

Members present :—E. BIDWELL, J. L. BONHOTE, W. FITZHERBERT BROCKHOLES, P. CROWLEY, W. E. DE WINTON, Dr. F. D. DREWITT, E. N. F. FENWICK, J. GERRARD, E. HARTERT, J. E. HARTING, J. G. MILLAIS, H. MUNT, E. NEALE, R. NESHAM, E. W. OATES, Dr. F. PENROSE, Major R. G. WARDLAW RAMSAY, H. E. RAWSON, R. H. READ, Dr. PERCY RENDALL, H. SAUNDERS (*Treasurer*), R. BOWDLER SHARPE (*Editor*), E. CAVENDISH TAYLOR, W. B. TEGETMEIER, W. F. URWICK, H. M. WALLIS, WATKIN WATKINS, L. A. WILLIAMS, H. F. WITHERBY.

Visitors : J. W. CASTLE, C. DUNN, F. G. JACKSON, W. H. URWICK.

After offering his heartfelt thanks to the Club for their resolution of sympathy passed at the last Meeting, the CHAIRMAN gave the following address :—

“There is probably no greater test of the interest taken in a particular subject in these days than the establishment of a journal or periodical specially devoted to its cause. This fact is so obvious that I need not stop to give instances of this being the case. On this occasion, therefore, I propose

[November 29th, 1897.]

to offer you a few remarks on the present state and progress of the Journals devoted to the special interests of the Class *Aves* throughout the civilized world, and shall begin with the three which, I think, must be acknowledged by all of us to be the leading authorities on the subject, viz.—(taking them in the order of seniority), the ‘Journal für Ornithologie’ of Berlin, ‘The Ibis’ of London, and ‘The Auk’ of the United States of America.

“The ‘Journal für Ornithologie’ was founded by the veteran ornithologist Dr. Jean Cabanis in 1853, and carried on by him with unfailing success for a period of forty-one years. In 1894 it passed into the possession of the ‘Allgemeine deutsche ornithologische Gesellschaft,’ and has since that date been not less successfully conducted for that Society by our Honorary Member, Dr. Anton Reichenow, who is personally well known to many of us. The ‘Journal für Ornithologie’ is, I may fairly say, to a considerable extent occupied with contributions relating to the Avifauna of Central Europe, but, on glancing over its pages, excellent articles will be found throughout the work which relate to the birds of other parts of the world. The newly-founded German colonies have naturally attracted a large share of attention in the Fatherland, and Dr. Reichenow’s memoirs on the birds of Togo-land, on the avifauna of German East Africa and on that of Kaiser-Wilhelms-land, recently published in the ‘Journal,’ may be mentioned specially as being of very great importance. But the German ornithologists by no means confine themselves to the range of their own colonies. German collectors range over the whole world, and German taxidermists are to be found in nearly every museum as well of the New World as of the Old, and not unfrequently become contributors to the information collected in their national Journal of Ornithology. In other branches of our subject, such as Anatomy, Pterylosis, Nomenclature, and Classification, the ‘Journal für Ornithologie’ will be found to be likewise replete with information.

“To sing our own praises is a somewhat delicate task,

but I think I may say that 'The Ibis,' which was founded by the B.O.U. in 1859, six years later than the 'Journal für Ornithologie,' has, in some respects, had even a more striking career than its sister Journal. This of course is mainly owing to the unfailing support it has received from the Members of the B.O.U., now upwards of 300 in number, who have grudged neither time nor money in promoting its success. We have now published Six Series of 'The Ibis,' each extending over a period of six years, and two 'Index' volumes, which greatly facilitate references to the work, while of a Seventh Series the third volume is already complete, bringing up the work to the close of the present year. Glancing over the set in our libraries we notice at once that the more recent volumes have evidently increased in bulk, and, we may also hope, have not diminished as regards the value of their contents. The special feature that distinguishes 'The Ibis' is, I think I may say, its cosmopolitanism. Englishmen, as we know, and especially English ornithologists, are scattered over the whole world. Their motto, like that of the Royal Engineers, is 'Ubique'; and although there are always a certain number of communications in 'The Ibis' relating to 'British' Birds, the majority of the memoirs either come from correspondents in foreign countries, or are devoted to the description of collections transmitted to headquarters from travellers in distant lands. For example, taking a look for a moment at the recently completed volume for 1897, we find articles on the Birds of British Burmah, Chili, Marocco, the Pyrenees, Siberia, Guiana, Argentina, China, the Red Sea, the Philippine Islands, San Domingo, Central Madagascar, New Guinea, Zulu-land, Nyasa-land, Oudh, and Spitsbergen. It will be seen that our claim to be cosmopolitans in science, although we are at the same time all British patriots to the backbone, have not been put forward without reason. I will not now stop to describe what has been written in 'The Ibis' in other branches of ornithological research during recent years, but I can assure you that the Editors have done their very best to keep the Journal up to the highest standard.

“The third leading journal in Ornithology—‘The Auk’—was established by the American Ornithologists’ Union in 1884, and the editorship was assigned to Prof. J. A. Allen, under whose well-ordered sway it still continues. As would naturally be expected, ‘The Auk’ is mainly devoted to promoting a knowledge of the Birds of the New World, and the greater number of its articles relate to what I am pleased still to call the Nearctic Region, although the zoo-geographers of the United States seem to have lately entered into a conspiracy to abolish the use of that convenient term. Of the activity and intelligent zeal of our American brethren in the cause to which we are all devoted there can be no question. Owing to their enthusiasm, of which ‘The Auk’ itself is a product, there is probably no part of the world the native birds of which are now so well known as the United States of America. In every part of the Union collections have been made by the correspondents and emissaries of the A.O.U. and transmitted to headquarters, where the specimens have been studied and the results recorded with the utmost diligence. Of late years the American ornithologists have extended their researches into Mexico and Central America. They have also closely surveyed nearly every island of the West Indian Archipelago, and have begun to make winter excursions into the northern borders of South America. On looking into the 14th volume of ‘The Auk,’ which contains the memoirs published in 1897, we find articles on the birds of Mexico, Guatemala, the Kurile Islands, Venezuela, and Alaska, not to speak of numerous valuable contributions to the study of such questions as nesting-habits, dichromatism, nomenclature, abnormal plumages, and almost every other subject that comes within the grasp of the ornithologist. I may also, perhaps, venture to call special attention to the valuable criticisms on recent literature given in every number of ‘The Auk,’ which may be always read with profit, even though we may not altogether coincide with the views of the writers.

“Having said so much about the three principal ornithological journals which at the present epoch are devoted to general Ornithology—*i. e.* to the whole subject, and not to

any particular part of it.—I think I need hardly trouble you with disquisitions on the recent progress of journals with a less extended object. There are a considerable number of such publications, as a search in the well-stocked library of the Zoological Society will show to those who wish to consult them; and many of them are making valuable contributions to the knowledge of our favourite science. Amongst these I may specially mention ‘Ornis,’ the organ of the permanent International Ornithological Committee, hitherto edited by Prof. Dr. H. Blasius, and published at Brunswick (it is now in its ninth year of publication); the ‘Ornithologisches Jahrbuch’ of Victor, Ritter von Tschusi zu Schmidhoffen, published at Hallein, now in its eighth year; and ‘Aquila,’ the organ of the Hungarian Central Bureau for Ornithological Observations, which was commenced in 1894. It is singular that, so far as I know, there has never been a purely ornithological journal started in France; but Italy has lately started an ‘Avicula’—*parva sed omnino Italica!* With hearty wishes for success, in which I am sure you will join me, to this youngest, and likewise to every other member of the confraternity of ornithological journals, I have only to ask your kind excuses for having so long occupied your attention.”

The CHAIRMAN submitted the following list of Ornithological Journals, now in the course of publication, of which there are copies in the Library of the Zoological Society of London:—

AMERICA.

1. The Auk, a Quarterly Journal of Ornithology. Vols. I.–XIV.
8vo. *Boston and New York*, 1884–97.
2. The Osprey. An Illustrated Monthly Magazine of Ornithology.
Vol. I. Nos. 1–7. 8vo. *Galesburg, Ill.*, 1897.

AUSTRIA.

3. Ornithologisches Jahrbuch.—Organ für das paläartische Faunengebiet. Jahrg. I.–VIII. Hefte 1–5. Royal 8vo. *Hallein*, 1890–97.
4. Mittheilungen des ornithologischen Vereines in Wien. Jahrg. I.–XXI. Nos. 1–3. 4to. *Wien*, 1877–97.

GERMANY.

5. Journal für Ornithologie. Jahrg. I.-XLV.
8vo. *Cassel and Leipzig*, 1853-97.
6. Ornithologische Monatsberichte. Jahrg. I.-V. Nos. 1-10.
8vo. *Berlin*, 1893-97.
7. Zeitschrift des ornithologischen Vereins in Stettin. Jahrg. I.-XXI.
Nos. 1-10. 8vo. *Stettin*, 1877-97.
8. Ornithologische Monatsschrift, des deutschen Vereins zum Schutze
der Vogelwelt. Band XI.-XXI., XXII. Nos. 1-10.
8vo. *Werseburg and Gera*, 1886-97.
9. Die gefiederte Welt. Wochenschrift für Vogelliebhaber. I.-XXVI.
4to. *Berlin and Magdeburg*, 1872-97.

GREAT BRITAIN.

10. The Ibis, a Quarterly Journal of Ornithology. Vols. I.-XXXIX.
8vo. *London*, 1859-97.
11. The Avicultural Magazine. Vols. I.-III. 8vo. *Brighton*, 1894-97.
12. Bulletin of the British Ornithologists' Club. Vols. I.-VI.
8vo. *London*, 1893-97.

HUNGARY.

13. Aquila. A Magyar Madártani Kőzpont Folyóirata. Jahrg. I.-IV.
Nos. 1-3. 4to. *Budapest*, 1894-97.

ITALY.

14. Avicula: Giornale ornitologico Italiano. Anno I. Fasc. 1, 2.
4to. *Siena*, 1897.

Mr. F. G. JACKSON, whose return to England was heartily welcomed by the members of the Club, gave an interesting account of the birds observed by him during his three years' residence in Franz Josef Land, and referred especially to the nesting of the Ivory Gull (*Pagophila eburnea*). Specimens of the various species collected by the Jackson-Harmsworth Expedition were exhibited, and Mr. Howard Saunders, in his remarks on the collection, drew special attention to the occurrence of the Lapland Bunting (*Calcarius lapponicus*) at Cape Flora in June, this being the first record of the species in the Franz Josef group of islands.

Mr. ERNST HARTERT exhibited, on behalf of the Hon. Walter Rothschild, some skins of highly interesting species

of birds from the Tring Museum: *Macgregoria pulchra* and *Astrapia splendidissima* (with the hitherto undescribed female) from New Guinea, *Myiadestes coracina* from Colombia, *Zosterops babelo* from the Talaut Islands, *Scops alfredi* from Flores, and a female of *Eudynamis honorata*, in nearly complete barred plumage, but retaining still some black feathers of the first plumage, when both males and females are entirely black.

Mr. Hartert was also able to announce that good results might shortly be expected from the expeditions despatched by Mr. Rothschild to the Galapagos Islands and the River Orinoco.

Mr. OSBERT SALVIN forwarded descriptions of five species of South-American birds: four of them from British Guiana, whence the specimens had been sent by the late Henry Whitely and received in this country after his death. The fifth was from Mr. Pratt, who is now exploring in the Cauca Valley, Colombia, and was sent in a collection of birds made at a place called Valparaiso, not far from Antioquia, and 3800 feet above the sea-level.

PLATYRHYNCHUS GRISEICEPS, sp. n.

P. seni similis, sed capite summo multo grisescentiore, dorso pallidiore, et abdomine flavescentiore distinguendus.
Long. tota 4·2 poll., alæ 2·6, caudæ 1·4, tarsi 0·55.

Hab. Aunai, British Guiana (*H. Whitely*).

Obs. In his last collection the late Henry Whitely sent several specimens of this species. It is closely allied to *P. senex*, ScL. & Salv., of Eastern Ecuador, and, like the latter, has the concealed spot of the crown pure white, but differs in the points mentioned above.

TODIROSTRUM PICTUM, sp. n.

Suprà olivaceum, dorso medio indistinctè nigro striato; pileo toto, nuchâ et capitis lateribus nigerrimis; loris dimidio superiore, et striâ latâ sub oculos ductâ, albis; gulâ albâ, distinctè nigro striatâ; gastræo reliquo flavo, pectore distinctè et hypochondriis indistinctè nigro striatis; alis nigris, secundariis flavo limbatis, tectricibus majoribus et mediis quoque flavo maculatis: caudâ

nigricante, extrorsum flavo limbatâ; subalaribus albis: rostro et pedibus nigricantibus. Long. tota circa 3·5 poll., alæ 1·6, caudæ 1·2, rostri a rictu 0·6, tarsi 0·6.

Hab. Aunai, British Guiana (*H. Whitely*).

Obs. This species is apparently allied to *T. guttatum*, and has a similar black head, but there is no broad post-orbital yellow stripe, and the throat and area under the eye are white and not yellow as in *T. guttatum*, in which the chin alone is white.

A single specimen was contained in Whitely's last collection.

HAPALOCERCUS STRIATICEPS, sp. n.

H. flaviventri similis, sed multo minor, dorso magis olivaceo et fusco indistinctè striato; capite summo striato, plumis singulis saturatè fuscis fulvo limbatis, areâ infraoculari nigricante; alis fuscis, sordido albo bistriatis et remigibus eodem colore extrorsum limbatis: rostri maxillâ corylinâ, mandibulâ pallidâ, pedibus corylinis. Long. tota circa 4·0 poll., alæ 1·6, caudæ 1·6, tarsi 0·65, rostri a rictu 0·5.

Hab. Aunai, British Guiana (*H. Whitely*).

CAPSIEMPIS CAUDATA, sp. n.

C. flaveolæ affinis, sed subtus multo pallidior; torque cervicali et gutture fulvo tinctis; notæo fusco olivaceo tincto; loris et fronte strictè albis; alis fuscis, remigibus albido limbatis, tectricibus majoribus et mediis sordido albido terminatis, fasciis duabus distinctis formantibus; caudâ fuscâ, rectricibus externis in pogonio externo et apicibus albidis; rostro et pedibus nigricantibus. Long. tota circa 4·0 poll., alæ 1·95, caudæ 1·85, tarsi 0·7, rostri a rictu 0·5.

Hab. Ourumee, British Guiana (*H. Whitely*).

Obs. Allied to *C. flaveola*, but readily distinguished by the light outer webs and tips of the outer tail-feathers and by other characters.

CAPITO HYPOLEUCUS, sp. n.

Suprà niger; pileo medio et fronte coccineis; nuchâ sordidè albâ; scapularibus utrinque albicantibus ad dorsum medium convergentibus: subtus albus; torque pectorali pallidè fuscâ; hypochondriis leviter flavo lavatis; sub-

alaribus albis; remigibus intus pallidè fuscis: rostro flavido, apice corneo; pedibus plumbeis. Long. tota 8·0 poll., alæ 3·5, caudæ 2·25, tarsi 1·0, rostri a rictu 1·2.

Hab. Valdivia, State of Antioquia, Colombia (alt. 3800 feet) (*A. E. Pratt*).

Obs. This remarkable *Capito* has no near allies. In having a wholly white throat it resembles *C. maculicoronatus* ♂, but has not the spotted flanks of that species. Its red crown and the white lines along the scapulars and the dusky band across the chest are also points of difference.

Dr. BOWDLER SHARPE exhibited two skins of an apparently new species of *Sturnopastor* from Pachim and Tahkamen in Siam, collected by Mr. Stanley S. Flower, the Director of the Royal Museum at Bangkok. He proposed for it the name of

STURNOPASTOR FLOWERI, sp. n.

S. similis S. superciliari, sed suprà niger, dorso pileo concolore nec brunneo: gutturis nigredine magis extenso, regione præpectoralis quoque nigrâ: corpore reliquo subtùs albo, nec vinaceo-griseo adumbrato. Long. tot. 9·0 poll., culm. 1·3, alæ 4·8, caudæ 2·75, tarsi 1·45.

Dr. SHARPE also made some remarks on the Black-headed Orioles of Africa, and pointed out that the Oriole of Gaboon had been hitherto confounded with *O. brachyrhynchus*, from which it differed in being smaller and in having a conspicuous yellow collar, the yellow also being spread over the mantle. He proposed to call it

ORIOLES LÆTIOR, sp. n.

Mr. J. I. S. WHITAKER sent for exhibition some specimens of *Sturnus unicolor* procured in Marocco in the spring and summer of the present year. It was evident that the birds killed in June were in the fullest breeding plumage and had black bills, whereas specimens killed in winter and early spring had yellow bills.

Mr. WHITAKER also sent for exhibition skins of two appa-

rently new species of birds from Marocco, which he described briefly as follows :—

GARRULUS ŒNOPS, sp. n.

G. similis G. minori, sed minor, et facie laterali et gutture toto vinaceis, minimè albis, distinguendus: pileo latè nigro striolato. Long. tot. 12·2 poll., alæ 6·4.

RHODOPECHYS ALIENA, sp. n.

R. similis R. sanguineæ, sed rostro debiliore, superciliis et torque collari cineraceis, nec fulvescenti-albis vel roseis: gutture pallidè roseo, nec cinnamomeo-brunneo distinguenda. Long. tot. 6·0 poll., alæ 4·1.

The CHAIRMAN exhibited an interesting autograph letter of John Latham, addressed to M. Olivier of Paris, and referring to a copy of his 'General History of Birds.' The letter was dated "Dartford, Kent, Nov. 10, 1789," and had been presented to the Chairman by Dr. Jean Cabanis.

He also made some remarks on birds observed by him in Russia, and stated that he had been resident for nearly a fortnight, in August and September last, at a country house in the vicinity of St. Petersburg, and, though principally occupied with other matters, had not failed to pay attention to the ordinary birds of the district. Putting aside the ubiquitous Sparrow, the most common Passerine bird to be seen there at this time of the year was certainly the White Wagtail (*Motacilla alba*); Spotted Flycatchers, Larks, Yellowhammers, and Siskins were also abundant. The only Thrush seen was *Turdus musicus*; *T. merula*, it was said, was never met with. The ordinary Crow was *C. cornix*, but the Rook (*C. frugilegus*) was likewise observed in flocks on the corn-fields along the Baltic Railway. The Great Black Woodpecker (*Picus martius*) was common in the plantations, and specimens were shot while Mr. Selater was there; and both the Pied Woodpeckers (*Dryobates major* and *D. minor*) were said to be frequently met with. For further particulars Mr. Selater referred enquirers to Dr. Büchner's excellent

memoir 'Die Vögel des St. Petersburger Gouvernement,' published in 1886, as the best authority on the subject. The Double Snipe (*Gallinula major*) was the favourite object of pursuit of the sportsman at this time of year, and it was certainly an excellent bird for the table.

Mr. ROBERT READ exhibited some peculiar varieties of the eggs of the Common Guillemot (*Uria troile*), collected at Flamborough during the past summer, and called attention to the correspondence of their variations with the eggs of the Kittiwake (*Rissa tridactyla*) and other birds which bred in the same locality.

The next Meeting of the Club will be held on Wednesday, the 15th of December, 1897, at 8.30, at the Restaurant Frascati, 32 Oxford Street; the Dinner at 7 p.m.

(Signed)

P. L. SCLATER,	R. BOWDLER SHARPE,	HOWARD SAUNDERS,
<i>Chairman.</i>	<i>Editor.</i>	<i>Sec. & Treas.</i>

BULLETIN

OF THE

BRITISH ORNITHOLOGISTS' CLUB.

No. XLIX.

THE forty-eighth Meeting of the Club was held at the Restaurant Frascati, 32 Oxford Street, on Wednesday, the 15th of December, 1897.

Chairman: P. L. SCLATER, F.R.S.

Members present:—E. BIDWELL, J. L. BONHOTE, W. E. DE WINTON, A. H. EVANS, E. N. F. FENWICK, F. W. FROHAWK, W. R. OGILVIE GRANT, E. HARTERT, J. GRAHAM KERR, Col. P. W. L'ESTRANGE, R. NESHAM, E. W. OATES, H. J. PEARSON, F. PENROSE, M.D., T. D. PIGOTT, C.B., W. P. PYCRAFT, HOWARD SAUNDERS (*Treasurer*), E. CAVENDISH TAYLOR, Major HORACE A. TERRY, W. F. URWICK, WATKIN WATKINS, L. A. WILLIAMS, C. A. WRIGHT, JOHN YOUNG.

Visitors: Messrs. H. TABOR BROOKS, BUDGETT, C. E. FAGAN, and F. E. MUGFORD.

The Hon WALTER ROTHSCHILD sent descriptions of the following species of birds from New Guinea:—

CYCLOPSITTACUS MACILWRAITHI, sp. n.

Forehead to middle of crown and line round eyes black, slightly washed with blue. Rest of head, neck, tail, and upper surface, including upper wing-coverts, dark grass-green. Primaries and outer secondaries black with bright blue outer webs; innermost secondaries green, with the inner webs black, bordered with buff. Sides of head and neck and entire breast buff, strongly washed with yellow. Abdomen, flanks, thighs, and under tail-coverts apple-green. Under

[December 29th, 1897.]

wing-coverts apple-green, bright blue along the outer edge. Total length 125 mm., wing 86, tail 37, culmen 16, tarsus 10. Iris brown; bill deep brown.

Hab. North coast of British New Guinea (*coll. Anthony*).

Obs. Named in honour of Mr. MacIlwraith, from whom I received the specimen.

PACHYCEPHALA GAMBLEI, sp. n.

♀. Similar to *P. rufinucha*, Scat., but with larger beak, larger even than in the male of that species, and the rufous nuchal patch extending over the head to the centre of the crown. Frontal white feathers with dark centres; olive colour of back slightly darker. Total length about 170 mm., wing 83, tail 67, culmen 21, tarsus 29.

Hab. Mount Cameron, Owen Stanley Range, 5000 feet (*coll. Anthony*).

Obs. Named in honour of Mr. Robert Gamble.

I take this opportunity of mentioning that Dr. A. B. Meyer described a *Pachycephala sharpii* in 1884; therefore Count Salvadori's *P. sharpii*, described from Loria's collection in 1896, must be re-named, and I have much pleasure in calling it *P. salvadorii*, nom. emend.

EPIMACHUS ASTRAPIOIDES, sp. n.

Head and upper neck brilliant metallic purple. A bare spot behind the eye. Back and rump brownish black, some feathers tipped with metallic greenish blue. Tail black; central tail-feathers one third longer than the second pair, and shining steel-blue glossed with purple. Wings black, outer webs with steel-blue reflections. Chin and throat blackish purple, lower neck metallic coppery red, fading into shining coppery green on the breast. Abdomen green, the basal half of each feather being black. Flank-feathers long, extending beyond the wings, green fading into a coppery olive-green and mixed with some large scale-like feathers, purple with metallic-blue borders. Side plumes short, metallic purple, tipped with brilliant peacock metallic blue. Total length 830 mm., wing 185, tail 595, tarsus 50.

Hab. Dutch New Guinea.

Mr. ERNST HARTERT exhibited a specimen of the rare *Muzomela lafargei*, Hombr. & Jacq., hitherto only known from the type in the Paris Museum. The specimen was from the Solomon Islands, either from Guadalcanar or Bougainville Island.

Mr. SCLATER exhibited an egg of the "Turco" of the Chilians (*Hylactes megapodius*), belonging to the late Mr. Berkeley James's Collection, and obtained by Mr. A. A. Lane at Hacienda Mansel, as described in 'The Ibis' for 1897 (p. 44). The colour was white, but with an earthy brownish stain, and rather smooth texture, the dimensions 1.35 by 1.05. So far as Mr. Sclater knew, this was the first egg of any species of the family *Pteroptochidæ* yet described.

Dr. BOWDLER SHARPE sent for exhibition some specimens of birds from Christmas Island in the Indian Ocean, where they had been collected by Mr. C. W. Andrews. The species exhibited were *Merula erythropleura* (Sharpe), *Zosterops natalis*, Lister, *Collocalia natalis*, Lister, *Carpophaga whartoni*, Sharpe, *Chalcophaps natalis*, Lister, *Astur natalis*, Lister, *Ninox natalis*, Lister, *Tringoides hypoleucus* (L.), *Limnobanus fuscus* (Linn.), *Mesophoxys plumifera* (Gould), *Demigretta sacra* (Gm.), *Sula sula* (L.), *Phaëton phænicurus* (L.), *P. flavo-aurantius*, Lawr. The *Limnobænus* and *Mesophoxys* were additions to the list of Christmas Island birds, as published by Mr. J. J. Lister (P. Z. S. 1888, pp. 517-529).

Mr. W. R. OGILVIE GRANT made some remarks on the Tropic-Bird (*Phaëton flavo-aurantius*, Lawrence) obtained by Mr. C. W. Andrews on the above-mentioned island.

This apricot-coloured form had been figured by Reichenbach [Syst. Av. pl. 30. fig. 852 (1850)] under the name of *P. flavirostris*, Brandt, and subsequently described by Lawrence [Ann. Lyc. N. York, vii. p. 142 (1862)] as a distinct species from a skin of unknown origin. In 1887 Mr. J. J. Lister visited Christmas Island and collected there examples of this "fine golden-pink" Boatswain-Bird, which were entered in his list (*l. c.*) under the name

of *P. flavirostris*. *P. flavo-aurantius* exactly resembled the latter species in the arrangement of the black markings on the plumage, but differed in having the whole of the light parts of a fine orange-salmon or apricot-colour. This tint did not fade after death, nor did it seem due to extraneous colouring-matter. All the examples of this bird obtained and seen at Christmas Island were similarly coloured, and Mr. Grant considered *P. flavo-aurantius*, Lawr., a well-marked subspecies of *P. flavirostris*, Brandt, with which it had hitherto been regarded as synonymous.

Mr. Grant also pointed out that, after comparing large series of skins of *Phaëton*, he found that typical examples of *P. flavirostris*, Brandt, from Ascension, Réunion, Seychelles, Pelew Islands, &c., differed constantly from the Yellow-billed Boatswain-Bird met with at Bermuda and the West Indies, and he proposed to distinguish the birds from the latter localities under the name of

PHAËTON AMERICANUS, sp. n.

Adult male and female. Similar to *P. flavirostris*, Brandt, but differing constantly in the following points:—the black on the outer web of the first primary extending to within half an inch of the extremity, on the second and fourth quills reaching almost to the tip, while the third quill had the outer web entirely black. Bill entirely yellow, except above the nasal opening.

Range. East and south-east coasts of North America, from Bermuda to the West Indies.

The next Meeting of the Club will be held on Wednesday, the 19th of January, 1898, at 8.30, at the Restaurant Frascati, 32 Oxford Street; the Dinner at 7 P.M.

(Signed)

P. L. SCLATER,	R. BOWDLER SHARPE,	HOWARD SAUNDERS,
<i>Chairman.</i>	<i>Editor.</i>	<i>Sec. & Treas.</i>

BULLETIN

OF THE

BRITISH ORNITHOLOGISTS' CLUB.

No. L.

THE forty-ninth Meeting of the Club was held at the Restaurant Frascati, 32 Oxford Street, on Wednesday, the 19th of January, 1898.

Chairman : P. CROWLEY.

Members present :—BOYD ALEXANDER, E. BIDWELL, W. E. DE WINTON, Dr. F. D. DREWITT, E. N. F. FENWICK, J. H. GURNEY, E. HARTERT, Rt. Hon. Sir HERBERT MAXWELL, Bart., M.P., E. G. B. MEADE-WALDO, H. MUNT, R. NESHAM, H. J. PEARSON, F. PENROSE, M.D., W. P. PYCRAFT, PERCY RENDALL, M.D., H. SAUNDERS (*Treasurer*), R. BOWDLER SHARPE (*Editor*), W. B. TEGETMEIER, JOHNSON WILKINSON, H. F. WITHERBY.

Visitors : Hon. R. COKE, R. A. CROWLEY, E. LARKEN.

Dr. BOWDLER SHARPE exhibited a specimen of *Otus abissinicus*, Guérin, from Somali Land. This individual was obtained by Mr. J. Benet Stanford, and was of great interest as determining a species which had hitherto been unidentified in England. In 1875, when writing the second volume of the 'Catalogue of Birds,' Dr. Sharpe had been unable to determine the species further than by quoting Heuglin's description of it. The late Mr. Gurney had suggested that *Otus abyssinicus* might be identical with *Bubo milesi*, Sharpe; but a comparison of the two birds showed that this was not the case, although the former species was really a *Bubo* and

[January 30th, 1898.]

not an *Asio*, so that its proper title was *Bubo abyssinicus* (Guérin). The shape of the ear-orifice conclusively proved this to be the case, as was admitted by Mr. Pycraft, who had recently made a special study of the Owls.

Dr. BOWDLER SHARPE also exhibited some specimens of *Turdus tristis*, Swains., and *T. leucauchen*, Selater, from the Salvin-Godman Collection. Up to the present day these two species had been united together as the extremes of one variable form, and the late Mr. Seebohm believed that every possible intermediate link existed between them, and that they were found side by side in most parts of Central America. Dr. Sharpe pointed out that the splendid series now in the Salvin-Godman Collection proved that *T. tristis* was perfectly distinct from *T. leucauchen*, and was confined to Mexico. It never had a yellow bill, even in summer, and had the tail olive like the back. *T. leucauchen*, on the other hand, had a black tail, and in summer had a grey upper surface and an entirely yellow bill. In autumn and winter the bill was blackish and the plumage brown of various tints, but there was no reason to confound it with *T. tristis* at any time of year. The range of *T. leucauchen* extended from Chiapas to Panama. This simple explanation of summer and winter plumages had only now become possible from a study of the large series of Central American Thrushes collected in every month of the year, as was now the case with the species in the Salvin-Godman Collection, and it would doubtless give the key to the solution of many other knotty questions in the *Turdidæ*. For instance, the black bill of *Turdus daguæ*, Berlepsch (Orn. MB. v. p. 175), was not a specific character, as the describer imagined, but merely an accompaniment of winter plumage, and Dr. Sharpe believed that the last-named bird would have to be united to *T. leucauchen*. *T. phæopygoides* of Seebohm was certainly only *T. phæopygus* in non-breeding plumage.

Mr. HOWARD SAUNDERS exhibited an example of the Water-Pipit (*Anthus spipoletta*) which had been procured

by Mr. Caton Haigh on the 3rd of December in Carnarvonshire.

Mr. BOYD ALEXANDER showed some specimens of the new and rare species discovered by him in the Cape Verde Islands, and exhibited the nest and eggs of the Reed-Warbler of the islands (*Colamocichla brevipennis*), found by him on his second expedition to the Archipelago.

Mr. TEGETMEIER exhibited the skin of a hybrid Pheasant between *Phasianus reevesi* and *Thaumalea picta*. This interesting specimen is described in the 'Field' for Jan. 22, 1897.

Mr. J. H. GURNEY communicated the following description of a new Goshawk :—

ASTUR BUTLERI, sp. n.

Adult male. Whole of the upper parts bluish grey, lightest on the head; breast pink, finely barred with white, one indistinct bar at the end of the tail. No bars on the primaries, secondaries, or under wing-coverts, which are quite white; in this respect, and in its plain tail, greatly differing from *Astur poliopsis* (Hume), which has all the tail-feathers barred except the middle ones. Iris bright orange. Feet yellow. Length 11·7 inches, wing 6·7, tail 5·3, tarsus 1·9.

Immature male. Whole of the upper parts dark chestnut, darker on the nape, each feather having a dark centre. Tail cinnamon-red, with two dark brown bars. Breast and sides reddish brown, blotched with buff. Belly whitish buff, blotched with rufous. Throat buff, with a thin median streak of chestnut. Underside of wing cinnamon. Primaries and secondaries indistinctly barred. Under wing-coverts barred with rufous. Iris greyish white. Feet pale lemon. Bill black, base bluish. Cere pale green. Eyelid greenish (collector's ticket).

Obs. "These Hawks, and two others said to be exactly like them, were shot in September 1897 on the island of Car

Nicobar, in the Bay of Bengal, by Mr. A. L. Butler, and are named after Col. E. A. Butler, of Brettenham Park, Bury. Mr. Butler writes that they are 'not uncommon in forest on Car Nicobar, keeping almost exclusively to the tops of high trees; continually utters a shrill little double cry, exactly like *Astur badius*. Young birds are extremely chestnut in colour. The one I send had one or two filaments of nest-down still hanging to it, proving this to be the first plumage acquired. Young birds have a trick of fluttering on a bough like a broken-legged bird. In September I noticed several rufous-crowned young birds probably bred in March or April, and at the same time both adult cocks killed were in a state of breeding.'

"Dr. Sharpe concurs in thinking they are a species distinct from *Astur poliopsis* and *A. badius*. In the whole of the series at the Natural History Museum there was not one at all approaching the bright chestnut Kestrel-like colour of *Astur butleri* when immature."

Mr. ERNST HARTERT exhibited a new Humming-bird, which he described as follows:—

CHALCOSTIGMA PURPUREICAUDA, sp. n.

♂. Above deep green, with a metallic bluish gloss. Tail rich purple, the two lateral rectrices with narrow buff tips, the central pair metallic greenish blue towards the tip. Below dark green, each feather with a rusty-brown border, broader towards the belly, which is almost entirely rusty brown. Under tail-coverts purplish steel-blue, with broad rusty-buff edges. Chin and throat glittering green in the middle. The irregular shape of the glittering spot on the throat and the rusty edges on the underside are probably signs of immaturity. Wing 71 mm.; lateral rectrices 54, central 40; exposed part of culmen 13.5.

One skin, evidently a male, found in a Bogota collection of Humming-birds. The bill is sharply pointed; the mandible is distinctly turned upwards before the tip, reminding one of *Opisthoprora*. The rectrices are very wide, the

lateral and central ones fully 12 mm. The purple tail reminds one somewhat of *Zodalia*, which, however, has the tail much longer.

This species has apparently no very close ally.

Mr. E. HARTERT further submitted some other new South-American birds, collected in Ecuador by Mr. Rosenberg. He characterized them as follows:—

CERCOMACRA ROSENBERGI, sp. n.

♂ *ad.* Above blackish cinereous; a large concealed dorsal spot of white. Wings and tail greyish black; tail without any white tips. Bend of wing mixed black and white. Wing-coverts with rounded white tips. Wing 63 mm., tail 51, bill 19, tarsus 28.

Cachabi, North Ecuador, 500 feet high. Named in honour of the discoverer.

This species is allied to *C. tyrannina* and *C. approximans*, but differs in having no white on the inner edges of the wing, and in having no large white spot on the bend of the wing. The tips to the wing-coverts are rather rounded, the rectrices having no white tips whatever.

PYRIGLENA BERLEPSCHI, sp. n.

Entirely black, with a large concealed dorsal spot of white. Inner aspect of wings blackish brown. Wing 44–46 mm., tail 47, bill 20, tarsus 28.

Cachabi, North Ecuador, 500 feet high. Named in honour of Count Berlepsch, the eminent specialist in South-American birds.

This species differs from *P. ater* chiefly in its considerably smaller size, while *P. picea* has, besides a much larger-sized toe, the inner wing-lining whitish.

THAMNOPHILUS CACHABIENSIS, sp. n.

Above black without any gloss, somewhat more slaty on the crown. Most of the wing-coverts with small white tips. Below slaty black; feathers of the chin, throat, breast, and a few along the middle of the abdomen with white tips. Wing

from below brownish black. Bill and feet black. Wing 67 mm., tail (rather abraded) about 46, tarsus 26.

Cachabi, North Ecuador, 500 feet.

The two skins before me are both marked "♀," which may possibly be correct, as in *T. punctatus*, the nearest known ally to *T. cachabiensis*, though widely different, the sexes are both black and very much alike.

AUTOMOLUS NIGRICAUDA, sp. n.

♂. Above dark brown, somewhat more rufous brown on the crown of the head. Wings deep brown, inner webs with rufous edges. Behind the eyes a clearly indicated rufous superciliary line. Ear-coverts dark brown. Throat rufous, lighter on the chin. Rest of under surface brown; flanks and under tail-coverts deeper brown. Under wing-coverts dark rufous. Tail from above black, with a slaty tinge, blackish brown below, this latter character distinguishing this species from all its allies, which have a reddish tail. Wing 90 mm., tail 72, bill 24, tarsus 28.

Cachabi, North Ecuador, 500 feet.

POLIOPTILA SCHISTACEIGULA, sp. n.

♂. Above slaty grey; crown of head a little darker. Wings slaty black. Tail black; some of the outer rectrices with narrow white tips, the extent of which cannot be exactly seen, as the tail-feathers are a little abraded. Chin-feathers white, with slate-coloured bases; entire throat and fore-neck slate-colour. Under wing-coverts white, slate-colour near the bend; inner webs of quills with a white margin towards the base. Breast, abdomen, and under tail-coverts white. Wing 50 mm., tail 43, tarsus 16, bill 12.

Cachabi, North Ecuador, 500 feet.

Mr. W. P. Pycraft exhibited the skulls of the principal forms of the *Steganopodes*, and pointed out the characters by which these birds could be distinguished, not only by a comparison of the skulls, but also of the pelvis, the shoulder-girdle, and other portions of the skeleton. *Phaeton* appeared

to be the least specialized, and was probably the most archaic of the Order.

The next Meeting of the Club will be held on Wednesday, the 16th of February, 1898, at 8.30, at the Restaurant Frascati, 32 Oxford Street; the Dinner at 7 P.M.

(Signed)

PHILIP CROWLEY,
Chairman.

R. BOWDLER SHARPE,
Editor.

HOWARD SAUNDERS,
Sec. & Treas.

BULLETIN

OF THE

BRITISH ORNITHOLOGISTS' CLUB.

NO. LI.

THE fiftieth Meeting of the Club was held at the Restaurant Frascati, 32 Oxford Street, on Wednesday, the 16th of February, 1898.

Chairman: P. L. SCLATER, F.R.S.

Members present:—BOYD ALEXANDER, G. E. H. BARRETT-HAMILTON, E. BIDWELL, W. EAGLE CLARKE, P. CROWLEY, W. E. DE WINTON, Dr. F. D. DREWITT, J. GERRARD, W. R. OGILVIE GRANT, E. HARTERT, J. E. HARTING, G. E. LODGE, E. NEALE, HEATLEY NOBLE, C. E. PEARSON, H. J. PEARSON, F. PENROSE, M.D., H. SAUNDERS (*Treasurer*), JOHNSON WILKINSON, L. A. WILLIAMS, H. F. WITHERBY.

Visitors: GEORGE EVANS, E. A. LEARROYD.

The Hon. WALTER ROTHSCHILD sent for exhibition the types of the following three new species:—

PITTA DOHERTYI, sp. n.

♂ *ad.* Top of the head and nape brownish red, darker on the forehead, in the middle of which, at the base of the culmen, are a few pale bluish feathers. Entire throat and a ring round the neck black; the feathers in the middle of the throat having concealed white bases. A broad band across the lower throat and upper back—interrupted on the sides of

[February 26th, 1898.]

the neck—pale blue, followed by a broad black band across the upper breast. Lower breast, entire abdomen, and under tail-coverts red, with white and black bases to the feathers. Back and scapulars olive-green, darker in the middle of the feathers. Least wing-coverts dark olive-green, the remainder pale blue with lighter edges, those near the shoulder with white bases. Rump, upper tail-coverts, and tail pale blue. Quills black, tips brownish with a bluish wash; second to fifth primary with a white speculum. Under wing-coverts brown. "Iris deep chestnut-brown; feet purplish grey; bill black, gape and tip of culmen dull ochreous." Wing 99 mm., tail 39, bill 20, tarsus 40.

♀. Throat brownish black. Dimensions a little smaller. Iris white!

The entirely black throat and breast-band and the scaly appearance of the upper parts distinguish this bird at a glance from the other species in which the abdomen is red.

Hab. Sula Mangoli; discovered by Mr. William Doherty, of Cincinnati.

PTILINOPUS MANGOLIENSIS, sp. n.

Belongs to Group A of the arrangement of the genus *Ptilinopus* in the 'Catalogue of Birds,' vol. xxi., and resembles *P. subgularis*, Mey. & Wigglesw., in the absence of the rust-coloured spot on the abdomen; but it differs from both *P. gularis* and *P. subgularis* in being greenish yellow on the neck and under surface, all the feathers of these parts being light grey with broad greenish-yellow borders. The feathers of the crown have narrow sub-terminal yellowish lines. Wing of the male 165, of the female 156 mm.; tail of male 136, of female 130 mm.

Hab. Sula Mangoli (*W. Doherty coll.*).

PTILINOPUS EVERETTI, sp. n.

This new species may be described as being between *P. cinctus* and *P. albocinctus*. It differs from *P. cinctus* in having the throat and neck white with fine narrow, wavy, very pale grey cross-lines—instead of white washed with lemon-yellow—and in having a wider and lighter terminal bar across the tail-feathers. *P. albocinctus* has the throat

and neck bluish grey, and the abdomen darker, the bar across the tail narrower. *P. lettiensis* differs in having the neck and throat ivory-white, and the end of the tail yellowish white, not pale grey.

P. everetti was found on the island of Alor by Mr. Alfred Everett.

Mr. ERNST HARTERT exhibited specimens of three new Pigeons discovered on the Island of Obi Major (or Obi), Moluccas, by Mr. William Doherty. He characterized them as follows:—

CARPOPHAGA OBIENSIS, sp. n.

Of the same pattern of coloration and the same dimensions as *C. basilica*, of the Northern Moluccas, but the entire head, throat, fore-neck, and breast much deeper vinous, with a greyish wash; hind-neck darker grey, separated from the vinous head by a rusty patch. Abdomen and under tail-coverts deep cinnamon, instead of pale cinnamon.

PTILINOPUS GRANULIFRONS, sp. n.

This remarkable new species entirely agrees in the pattern of its coloration with *P. hyogaster* (Temm.) from Halmahera and Batjan, but differs in the following points:—On the forehead, at the base of the bill, is a mass of fleshy knobs, of which there is no sign in *P. hyogaster*. The green of the back, and especially of the breast, is much more yellowish. The grey of the head is lighter and covers also the occiput. The vent and under tail-coverts are of a paler lemon-yellow. The wing is generally a little shorter, measuring 122–132 mm.

REINWARDTENAS REINWARDTI OBIENSIS, subsp. n.

Differs from the smaller form of *Reinwardtenas reinwardti*, of the Northern Moluccas, in having the chin and cheeks washed with yellowish buff.

Mr. G. E. H. BARRETT-HAMILTON exhibited specimens of ornaments made in Canton—the foundation being of silver, with a minute inlaying of blue feathers from several species of birds; the appearance produced being that of enamel.

Mr. E. BIDWELL exhibited a number of photographs of mounted birds in the Hancock Collection at the Newcastle Museum. Some of these birds were among the rarest visitors to Great Britain (*e.g.* the Black Kite and the Red-necked Nightjar), while others (such as the Northern Falcons, the Great Auk, &c.) were fine examples of the late Mr. Hancock's skill in taxidermy.

Mr. W. EAGLE CLARKE called attention to three species of birds hitherto unrecognized in Franz Josef Land. Of these, he exhibited a skin of the Shore-Lark (*Otocorys alpestris*), and also one of Bonaparte's Sandpiper (*Tringa fuscicollis* Vieill.), obtained on June 28th, by Mr. Bruce, of the Jackson-Harmsworth Expedition. The occurrence of the latter species was remarkable, inasmuch as its Arctic range was only known to extend from Greenland westward to Point Barrow, Alaska. The third unrecorded species was the Purple Sandpiper (*Tringa striata* Linn.), the eggs and downy young of which were obtained.

Mr. W. R. OGILVIE GRANT exhibited on behalf of Dr. Bowdler Sharpe (absent, owing to illness), a few skins from a collection of birds made in Mashona-land by Mr. J. Lawrence Sowerby, late of the B. S. A. Co. Police. Among these were examples of several interesting species, including *Melierax meehowi*, *Monticola angolensis*, &c., and a new Barbet, which Dr. Sharpe proposed to call

STACTOLEMA SOWERBYI, sp. n.

Similis *S. anchietæ*, sed mento albo, gutture et præpectore nigricantibus, gastræi plumis albido apicatis, tibiis albis, distinguenda. Long. tot. 6·6 poll., alæ 3·75.

Mr. GRANT also read descriptions of three new species of birds recently obtained by Messrs. C. B. Rickett and J. de La Touche in the Province of Fohkien:—

1. CRYPTOLOPHA SINENSIS Rickett, sp. n.

Like *C. castaneiceps* Hodgs., but the breast and belly are uniform yellow and only the outermost pair of tail-feathers have the inner web white. Wing 1·85–2·0 inches.

2. *CETTIA SINENSIS* La Touche, sp. n.

Nearest to *C. fortipes*, but the throat, fore-neck, middle of the chest, and breast white; sides, flanks, and vent snuff-brown; no tinge of fulvous on the middle of the belly. Wing 1·9-2·2, tail 1·7-2·05 inches.

3. *CRYPTOLOPHA INTERMEDIA* La Touche, sp. n.

Near *C. tephrocephala* (Anders.) and *C. affinis* (Hodgs.). Differs from the former in having a much shorter bill, and the secondary coverts distinctly tipped with pale yellow, forming a well-marked bar; from *C. affinis* it differs in having a ring of feathers round the eye, yellow. Wing 2·2-2·3 inches.

Mr. SCLATER called attention to the excellent regulations made by Capt. A. H. Cowie, R.E., M.B.O.U., for the preservation of the wild birds in Wolmer Forest, as Hon. Sec. of the Aldershot Game-Preserving Association. All Hawks, Owls, and other birds were preserved as far as possible, and no guns were allowed to be carried by the gamekeepers. The heronry in Wolmer Forest had increased under Capt. Cowie's influence from one or two nests to nearly 20, and about 50 young birds were reared in 1897.

The announcement of the unexpected death of Mr. DANIEL MEINERTZHAGEN on 13th inst., at the age of 22, was received with regret. He was one of the last-elected Members of the B.O.U., and the latest recruit to the B.O.C.

The next Meeting of the Club will be held on Wednesday, the 16th of March, 1898, at 8.30, at the Restaurant Frascati, 32 Oxford Street; the Dinner at 7 P.M.

(Signed)

P. L. SCLATER,
Chairman.

HOWARD SAUNDERS,
Sec., Treas., & Acting-Editor.

BULLETIN

OF THE

BRITISH ORNITHOLOGISTS' CLUB.

No. LII.

THE fifty-first Meeting of the Club was held at the Restaurant Frascati, 32 Oxford Street, on Wednesday, the 16th of March, 1898.

Chairman: P. L. SCLATER, F.R.S.

Members present:—BOYD ALEXANDER, G. E. H. BARRETT-HAMILTON, E. BIDWELL, F. E. BLAAUW, Dr. J. ROSE BRADFORD, F.R.S., W. E. DE WINTON, Lieut.-Col. W. H. M. DUTHIE, A. H. EVANS, E. N. F. FENWICK, J. GERRARD, G. E. LODGE, E. NEALE, R. NESHAM, E. W. OATES, R. LLOYD PATTERSON, H. J. PEARSON, F. PENROSE, M.D., E. LORT PHILLIPS, T. DIGBEY PIGOTT, C.B., W. P. PYCRAFT, A.L.S., H. SAUNDERS (*Treasurer*), R. BOWDLER SHARPE (*Editor*), A. TREVOR-BATTYE, H. M. UPCHER, L. A. WILLIAMS, H. F. WITHERBY.

Visitors: Dr. E. GWYNN, REGINALD LODGE.

Mr. W. E. DE WINTON exhibited a specimen of *Perdix daurica*, purchased in Leadenhall Market. Several hundred specimens of this Bearded Partridge were on sale in the market, but their exact origin could not be ascertained. The birds were in excellent condition and had evidently not been shot. That they had come from some Mahommedan district of Asia was equally certain, as every specimen examined at the British Museum was found to have its throat cut!

[March 28th, 1898.]

Mr. HOWARD SAUNDERS exhibited the specimen of the small Shearwater obtained off the island of Valentia, Kerry, on the 11th of May, 1853. For years this specimen had been identified as the Dusky Shearwater, *Puffinus obscurus* (Gm.). Recent investigations by Mr. Ogilvie Grant in the islands near Madeira, as well as Mr. Boyd Alexander in the Cape Verde Archipelago, had aroused a suspicion that there might be an error in the identification of the Irish specimen. The authorities of the Science and Art Museum of Dublin having kindly forwarded the example in question for comparison with the specimens of *P. obscurus* in the British Museum, it is clearly established that this is not *P. obscurus*, but the closely allied *P. assimilis* of Gould, which may be distinguished from *P. obscurus* by its smaller size, by the white or pale centres to the inner webs of the primaries, the white under tail-coverts, and a more decided white line on each side of the neck. The identification is confirmed by Mr. Osbert Salvin. *P. assimilis* breeds in the islands of the Madeira and the Canary groups, as well as in the Cape Verde Islands, while *P. obscurus* breeds in the Bermudas and the Antilles. Both species have a wide range.

Mr. F. W. STYAN sent for exhibition a new Woodpecker from Fokien, which he proposed to call—

CHRY SOPHLEGMA RICKETTI, sp. n.

Adult male. Most nearly allied to *Chrysophlegma pierii*, but differs from that and other allied species in having the primaries coarsely barred with chestnut and black to the extremity; the chin is, moreover, rufous streaked with black, and only the malar region is white with a faint yellowish tinge.

Hab. Ching Ting, Fokien.

Mr. SCLATER brought forward the subject of "Bipolarity," which had been much discussed recently in the debates on the question of the scientific advantages of an Antarctic expedition, and remarked that in the case of the higher Vertebrates, or in that of Birds at least, no sort of "Bi-

polarity" could be stated to exist, whatever might be the case in the lower marine animals. Mr. Selater exhibited a list (see p. xlii) in which the birds of Arctica, as represented by the known birds of Franz Josef Land (*cf.* *Ibis*, 1898, p. 249), were contrasted in parallel columns with those of Antarctica (*cf.* *Ibis*, 1894, p. 494), and pointed out that not only were all the Species different, but nearly all the Genera and most of the Families and Orders. Three species of Passeres were found in Arctica, whereas not one was known from Antarctica, although there were vague rumours about a *Corvus* having been seen there. An Owl and a Hawk were found in Arctica, but no *Accipitres* had yet been met with in Antarctica. At least two species of *Anseres* were found in Arctica, but there were only uncertain reports of a Goose of some kind in Antarctica. Three species of Tringoid *Limicolæ* occurred in Arctica, whereas in Antarctica only the Sheath-bill (*Chionis*), belonging to a peculiar Antarctic Family, was known. Among the *Gaviæ* the correspondence was better, as the genera *Sterna*, *Larus*, and *Stercorarius* were represented in both the Polar Extremities, but the species were in every case different. The order of *Tubinares* was essentially Antarctic, at least ten species having been met with in Antarctica, whereas in the Arctic regions *Fulmarus glacialis* was the sole representative of the group. On the other hand, when we came to the *Pygopodes*, which were essentially an Arctic group, three species were amongst the more abundant of birds in the Arctic regions, and a fourth had occasionally been met with, but not a single form of this group was found in Antarctica. Descending to the *Impennes*, at the bottom of the list, we came again to an essentially Antarctic group, which was absolutely unknown in the Arctic regions, but was well represented by multitudinous individuals of at least four species in Antarctica.

The facts, therefore, as regards Arctic and Antarctic birds might be shortly summarized by stating that no two Avifaunas could be more essentially different, not a single species being identical, and only three genera out of seventeen,

whilst the *Pygopodes* of the North were replaced by the absolutely different Order *Impennes* in the South.

Birds of Arctica.

Birds of Antarctica.

I. PASSERES.

1. *Plectrophenax nivalis*.
2. *Calcarius lapponicus*.
3. *Otocorys alpestris*.

Corvus, sp. inc. (?).

II. STRIGES.

4. *Nyctea scandiaca*.

III. ACCIPITRES.

5. *Falco candicans* (?).

IV. ANSERES.

6. *Bernicla brenta*.
7. *Somateria mollissima*.

Chloephaga, sp. inc. (?).

V. LIMICOLÆ.

8. *Tringa fuscicollis*.
9. — *striata*.
10. *Calidris arenaria*.

1. *Chionis alba*.

VI. GAVIÆ.

11. *Sterna macrura*.
12. *Rhodostethia rosea*.
13. *Larus glaucus*.
14. *Pagophila eburnea*.
15. *Rissa tridactyla*.
16. *Stercorarius crepidatus*.

2. *Sterna hirundinacea*.
3. *Larus dominicanus*.
4. — *scoresbyi*.
5. *Stercorarius antarcticus*.
6. — *maccormicki*.

VII. TUBINARES.

17. *Fulmarus glacialis*.
7. *Diomedea fuliginosa*.
8. *Oceanites oceanicus*.
9. *Majaqueus æquinoctialis*.
10. *Thalassœca glacialis*.
11. — *antarctica*.
12. *Ossifraga gigantea*.
13. *Daption capensis*.
14. *Prion vittatus*.
15. — *desolatus*.
16. *Pagodroma nivea*.

*Birds of Arctica.**Birds of Antarctica.*

VIII. PYGOPODES.

18. *Colymbus septentrionalis*.
19. *Uria mandti*.
20. — *bruennichi*.
21. *Mergulus alle*.

IX. IMPENNES.

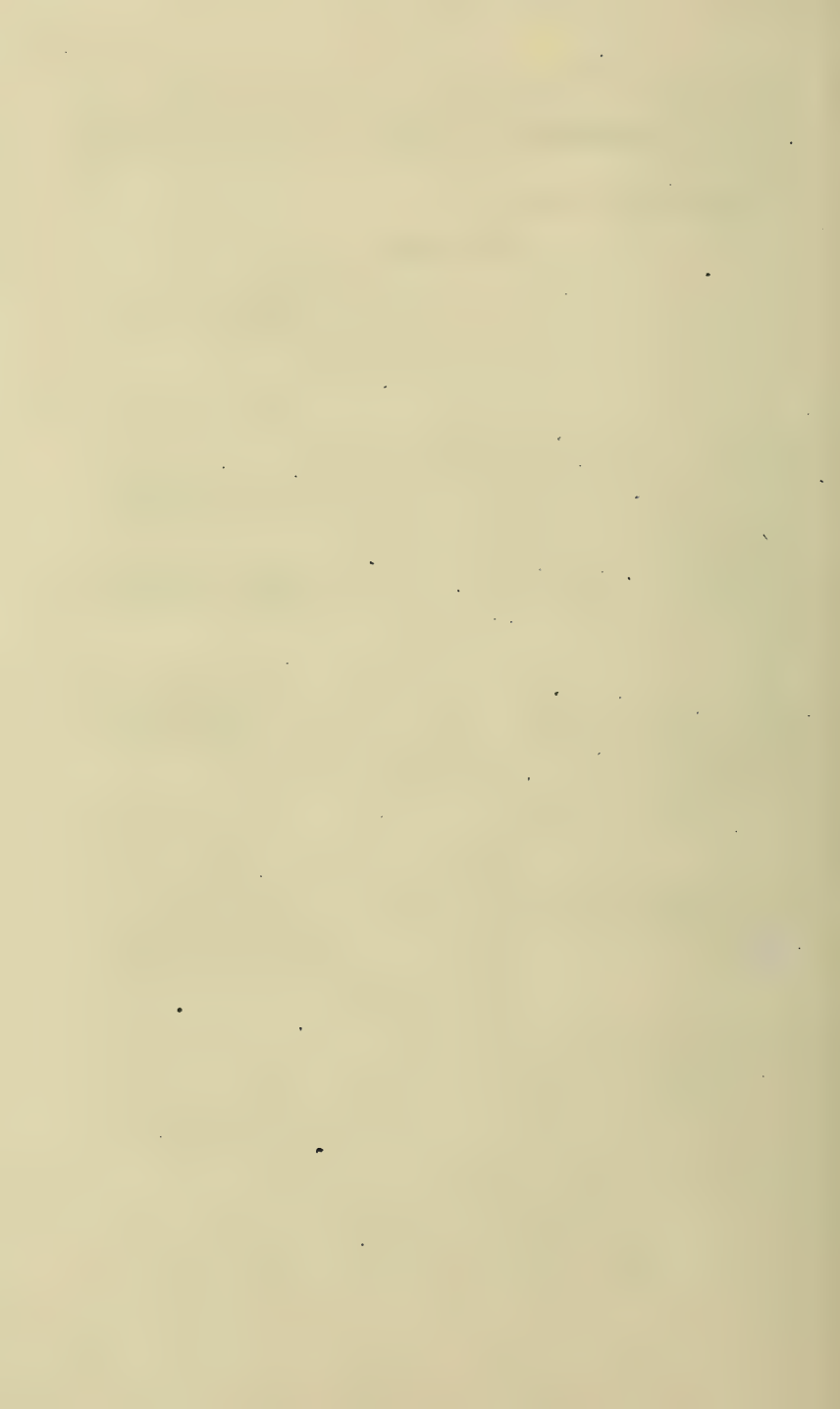
17. *Aptenodytes forsteri*.
18. *Pygosceles adeliæ*.
19. — *tæniata*.
20. *Eudyptes antarctica*.

Mr. BLAAUW exhibited eggs of a Weka Rail (*Ocydromus australis*), laid in his park at Hilvershum, which bore a curious similarity to the eggs of *Aramides ypecaha* laid under exactly the same circumstances. Only a small difference in the shape of the egg distinguished these two Forest-Rails from such distant parts of the world as New Zealand and South America.

The next Meeting of the Club will be held on Wednesday, the 20th of April, 1898, at 8.30, at the Restaurant Frascati, 32 Oxford Street; the Dinner at 7 P.M.

(Signed)

P. L. SCLATER,	R. BOWDLER SHARPE,	HOWARD SAUNDERS,
<i>Chairman.</i>	<i>Editor.</i>	<i>Sec. & Treas.</i>



BULLETIN

OF THE

BRITISH ORNITHOLOGISTS' CLUB.

No. LIII.

THE fifty-second Meeting of the Club was held at the Restaurant Frascati, 32 Oxford Street, on Wednesday, the 20th of April, 1898.

Chairman : P. L. SCLATER, F.R.S.

Members present :—BOYD ALEXANDER, G. E. H. BARRETT-HAMILTON, E. BIDWELL, W. EAGLE CLARKE, PHILIP CROWLEY, W. E. DE WINTON, H. E. DRESSER, Dr. F. D. DREWITT, Lt.-Col. W. H. M. DUTHIE, H. J. ELWES, F.R.S., JOHN GERRARD, W. R. OGILVIE GRANT, J. GRAHAM KERR, G. E. LODGE, Rt. Hon. Sir HERBERT MAXWELL, Bart., M.P., HENRY MUNT, R. NESHAM, HEATLEY NOBLE, E. W. OATES, H. J. PEARSON, E. LORT PHILLIPS, T. DIGBY PIGOTT, C.B., H. L. POPHAM, W. P. PYCRAFT, Capt. SAVILE G. REID, H. SAUNDERS (*Treasurer*), R. BOWDLER SHARPE (*Editor*), W. B. TEGETMEIER, N. F. TICEHURST, C. A. WRIGHT, JOHN YOUNG.

Visitors : H. J. BIDWELL, R. A. CROWLEY, R. LODGE, Sir HERBERT MAXWELL, H. C. MONRO, A. E. PRICE, H. G. SAWYER.

The Committee recommended the alteration of Rule III., under which, for reasons which were adequate when the Club was started in 1892, Members of the B. O. U. were not admissible as Visitors. The increased prosperity of the Club seemed to render this restriction no longer desirable. As

[April 30th, 1898.]

amended, Rule III. would be:—"Members of the B. O. U. can attend the Meetings of the Club as Visitors, but every Member of the Club introducing a Member of the B. O. U. as a visitor (to dinner or to the Meeting afterwards) shall pay One Shilling to the Treasurer on each occasion."

The proposed alteration was accepted, *nem. con.*

Mr. G. E. H. BARRETT-HAMILTON exhibited some specimens of birds from Kamchatka obtained during his recent trips to the North Pacific, the most interesting being an apparently new species of Nutcracker, which he described:—

NUCIFRAGA KAMCHATKENSIS, sp. n.

N. similis N. caryocatacti, sed nigra, nec brunnescens, et remigibus ad apicem albo maculatis vel marginatis. *N. multipunctatæ* potiùs affinis, et maculis albis magnis ornata, sed areâ albâ rectricum terminali minùs extensâ (1·3-1·5). Long. tot. 13·0 poll., culm. 1·85, alæ 7·2, caudæ 4·6, tarsi 1·55.

Mr. REGINALD B. LODGE exhibited some of his 'Photographs of Bird Life,' which included figures of many British Birds, as well as of other species from the marshes of Holland and Southern Spain.

Mr. HEATLEY NOBLE brought for exhibition the egg of the Great Auk recently acquired by him, and gave the following history of the specimen:—

This egg was acquired by the late Mr. A. D. Bartlett, from either Mr. Dunn or Mr. Hoy, about 1838. It was sold by him in April 1842 to Mr. E. Maunde and repurchased in or about 1851, after which it was sold to Dr. Nathaniel Troughton in 1852 (with a bird for £26) for £5.

On April 27th, 1869, Dr. Troughton's collection was sold at Stevens's Rooms, King Street, and the egg was bought by the second Lord Garvagh for £60 or £64 (Lot 253). After Lord Garvagh's death in 1871 the egg passed into the possession of the Dowager Lady Garvagh, who died in 1891, when it became the property of her daughter, the Hon. Emmeline R. Canning, who died on February 9th, 1898, and

at whose residence, 50 Belgrave Road, Mr. J. E. Harting found it. On April 7th, 1898, it was purchased by me. This specimen was erroneously supposed by Grieve ('History of the Great Auk,' p. 106) to have been broken to pieces through the carelessness of a servant.

At the time of his death Lord Garvagh possessed three eggs, two of which he had purchased from Mr. Potts in May 1853, and it was one of these (now in the possession of Mrs. G. F. Rowley) that had been broken, to replace which he bought this egg in 1869.

The Troughton egg had simply been lost sight of, and remained undiscovered for more than 25 years. Mr. Bidwell has a water-colour sketch made in 1861, before it became the property of Lord Garvagh, which places its identity beyond doubt.

Mr. H. L. POPHAM exhibited some beautiful clutches of eggs of species of Thrushes procured by him during his journey to the Yenesei Valley, among which were series of *Turdus obscurus*, *Geocichla sibirica*, &c.

Mr. JOSEPH I. S. WHITAKER described an apparently new species of Shore-Lark from the Atlas Mountains in Morocco, and proposed the name

OTOCORYS ATLAS, sp. n.

♂. Similis *O. elwesi* et regione nigrâ paroticâ minimè cum fasciâ pectorali conjunctâ: frontis basi nigrâ: tectricibus alarum arenario-brunneis, dorso concoloribus, nec vinaceis: gulâ pallidè sulfureâ ut in *O. alpestri*.

Hab. Glani, Atlas Mts., Morocco.

Mr. SCLATER, having just returned from a short visit to Malta, proposed to say a few words about the Ornis of that Island. According to the last authorities, the birds of the Maltese group were rather over 300 in number. Of these only some twelve were resident species, breeding in the islands, the remainder being either migrants that pass through in spring and autumn, or occasional visitors. Our leading authority on Maltese ornithology is, of course,

Mr. C. A. Wright, whose papers on this subject ('Ibis,' 1864-1870) would be well known to the members of the B. O. C.; but Prof. Giglioli having included Malta within the scope of his 'Avifauna Italica,' reference should also be made to that work, and likewise to Dr. R. Blasius's lately published 'Ornis v. Malta u. Gozo' (see 'Ibis,' 1895, p. 388).

Mr. Sclater had examined the collection of birds in the Museum of the University of Valletta, which contained from 400 to 500 examples of Maltese Birds. These were, unfortunately, badly mounted and cared for, and imperfectly named, and required thorough rearrangement and renewal. He had also had the pleasure of visiting the private collection of Major Francia, R.M.R., which had only lately been commenced, but contained about 100 nicely mounted specimens, many being of considerable rarity. Mr. Sclater suggested that a Handbook of Maltese Birds brought up to date would be a very useful and easy piece of work, and expressed a hope that some member of the B. O. U. would take up the subject.

Mr. W. E. DE WINTON made some further remarks on the Siberian Partridges (*Perdix daurica*), of which so many had recently come to the London-markets.

The next Meeting of the Club will be held on Wednesday, the 18th of May, 1898, at 8.30, at the Restaurant Frascati, 32 Oxford Street; the Dinner at 7 P.M.

(Signed)

P. L. SCLATER,	R. BOWDLER SHARPE,	HOWARD SAUNDERS,
<i>Chairman.</i>	<i>Editor.</i>	<i>Sec. & Treas.</i>

BULLETIN

OF THE

BRITISH ORNITHOLOGISTS' CLUB.

No. LIV.

THE fifty-third Meeting of the Club was held at the Restaurant Frascati, 32 Oxford Street, on Wednesday, the 18th of May, 1898.

Chairman: P. L. SCLATER, F.R.S.

Members present:—G. BARRETT-HAMILTON, R. M. BARRINGTON, E. BIDWELL, P. CROWLEY, W. E. DE WINTON, Dr. F. D. DREWITT, E. N. F. FENWICK, W. R. OGILVIE GRANT, J. H. GURNEY, E. HARTERT, R. McD. HAWKER, G. E. LODGE, H. MUNT, E. NEALE, R. NESHAM, E. W. OATES, C. E. PEARSON, H. J. PEARSON, F. PENROSE, M.D., T. D. PIGOTT, C.B., W. P. PYCRAFT, H. SAUNDERS (*Treasurer*), R. BOWDLER SHARPE (*Editor*), E. CAVENDISH TAYLOR, E. P. TENNANT, H. M. WALLIS, WATKIN WATKINS, LIONEL A. WILLIAMS.

Visitors: THE EARL OF LINDSAY, R. B. LODGE.

Mr. SCLATER exhibited a pair of eggs of the South African Thick-knee (*Ædicnemus capensis*), forwarded to him by Mr. J. E. Matcham, C.M.Z.S., of Port Elizabeth, as those of the "Dik-kop" of that district. There was one similar egg of the same species in the collection of the British Museum obtained by Mr. E. L. Layard.

[May 25th, 1898.]

Mr. SCLATER exhibited a second series of beautiful photographs of the nests and eggs of Australian Birds, transmitted to him by Mr. Dudley Le Souëf, C.M.Z.S., Assistant-Director of the Zoological Gardens at Melbourne. Amongst these were figures of the nests of the Victoria Lyre-bird (*Menura victoriae*), the Emu-Wren (*Stipiturus malachurus*), and the rarely-found nest (with one egg) of Jardine's Caterpillar-hunter (*Campephaga jardi*).

Mr. ERNST HARTERT exhibited the type specimens of two new birds obtained by Mr. A. L. Butler on the Gunong Ijau, Pérak, Malay Peninsula, and characterized them as follows:—

SERILOPHUS ROTHSCILDI, Hartert & Butler, sp. n.

Differs from *S. lunatus*—with which it agrees in the peculiarly shaped tips of the longest primaries—in being darker and greyer above; crown of the head pure grey, not pale rusty brown; ear-coverts grey, with hardly a tint of brown, while they are pale brown in *S. lunatus*, and the rufous colour on the secondaries is deeper; round the eye a narrow ring of white feathers. "Iris greenish brown, mottled with golden specks; eyelid and base of mandible for about $\frac{1}{8}$ inch bright gamboge-yellow; bill pale whitish blue, tip and lateral edges whitish; feet pale greenish chrome, claws milky blue" (*A. L. Butler*).

Hab. Gunong Ijau, 3000 feet. Named in honour of Mr. Walter Rothschild, by Mr. Butler's request.

CRYPTOLOPHA BUTLERI, Hartert, sp. n.

♂ *ad.* Crown of the head dark rufous, with a broad deep brown lateral stripe; sides of the head and back ashy grey; lower back, rump, scapulars, smaller upper-wing-coverts, edges to the primaries and rectrices, yellowish green; larger upper-wing-coverts blackish, with a greenish wash and greenish-yellow tips; throat and fore-neck to the chest pale grey; middle of the abdomen white; sides of body, under wing-coverts, axillaries, vent, and under tail-coverts lemon-

yellow. "Iris reddish brown; bill dusky, mandible yellowish flesh; feet brownish yellow" (*A. L. B.*).

Wing 51-54 mm., tail 42-45, bill 6.5-7, tarsus 16-16.5.

Nearest to *C. castaneiceps*, but easily distinguished by its darker rufous crown and grey back, besides other differences. Named in honour of Mr. Butler.

Hab. Gunong Ijau, 4000 feet.

Mr. HARTERT also announced that Mr. A. H. Everett, M.B.O.C., had returned to England, and was at 88 Great Portland Street, W., suffering from his long and arduous labours in tropical climates. It was unanimously resolved that an expression of the sympathy of the Club should be conveyed to Mr. Everett, whose illness would, it was hoped, soon pass away; meanwhile he was quite able and anxious to receive visits from his brother-ornithologists.

The Hon. WALTER ROTHSCHILD sent the following communication:—

The expedition sent out to the Galapagos Islands by Frank Blake Webster, at my suggestion, has been very successful, and the collection is the largest and finest yet made in that group. The collectors stayed one day at Clarion Island and procured 85 birds, among which was a fine series of the new *Sula* described hereafter. Of the 105 species enumerated by Ridgway as occurring in the Galapagos Islands, good series of nearly all were obtained. Several authors have mentioned the breeding-place of an Albatross on Hood Island, but no specimens were ever collected; while two species of Albatross were mentioned by former visitors to the islands, and Ridgway suggested that they might be *Diomedea exulans* and *D. nigripes*. The present expedition, however, found only one species of Albatross on Hood Island, and that proved to be *Diomedea irrorata* Salvin, of which hitherto only the type in the British Museum was known. The second supposed dark species will probably be the young of the above.

In addition to nearly all the species known to inhabit the archipelago, examples of several more were obtained, some seven or eight of which are new to science.

Mr. Hartert will show you the type specimens of six new species, of which I send you the descriptions. One species is named after Mr. Frank Blake Webster, who arranged and sent out the expedition, and one after each of the collectors.

PHALACROCORAX HARRISI, sp. n.

This is the most remarkable discovery made during the expedition.

Adult: upperside brownish black, bases of feathers blackish grey; scapulars and wing-coverts dark hoary grey, with black borders; a number of white filaments scattered about head and neck. Underside a mixture of pale brown and grey; tail black; quills blackish brown, with greyish tips on outer margin.

This bird is the largest known Cormorant, being if anything bigger than the extinct *Ph. perspicillatus*, and its wings are quite soft and incapable of flight, and of about the same size as the wings of the Great Auk, *Alca impennis*.

Wing of *Ph. harrisi*, 7 to 7·5 inches.

„ *Alca impennis*, 6·7 inches.

Hab. Narborough Island, Galapagos Islands.

SULA WEBSTERI, sp. n.

Adult, in white plumage closely resembling *S. piscatrix*, having the same hoary-grey on the primaries, but at once distinguishable by its dark brownish-grey tail; the bill is also more slender, and the red at the base of the mandible is more extended. Young in grey plumage somewhat variable, very different from the young of *S. piscatrix*, being not so dark above and the feathers of the back uniform brown, not edged with light grey; below darker than the young of *S. piscatrix*. Size of *S. piscatrix*.

Hab. Clarion Island, Galapagos, and the neighbouring seas.

NESOMIMUS HULLI, sp. n.

Similar to *N. melanotis*, but with the buffy-white tips to the primaries—and still more to the secondaries—decidedly wider, and with a distinct moustache-like line of black spots from the base of the mandible to the neck.

Culpepper Island. A good series.

NESOMIMUS AFFINIS, sp. n.

Near *N. parvulus* from Albemarle, but easily distinguished by its deeper, almost uniform dark brown upper surface and more heavily streaked sides of the body. Chest with a more distinct brownish shade.

Narborough Island. A small series.

CERTHIDEA BECKI, sp. n.

Very closely allied to *C. fusca* Sel. & Salvin, from Abingdon Island, but generally darker above and below, especially the sides of the body and chest more brownish. Bill in many—but not in all—specimens a little shorter; wing considerably longer, in males always above 55 mm. (generally 57–58, never more than 58), in females about 54–55.5 mm.; while in *C. fusca* the wing of the males does not exceed 54 mm. in length, that of the females being only 50–52 mm.

Wenman Island. A good series.

CERTHIDEA DROWNEI, sp. n.

Closely allied to *C. becki*, but generally larger; beak stouter, throat rusty, crown darker. Wing of one, marked male, 62 mm., of another, also marked male, but probably a female, 57 mm.

Culpepper Island. Only two specimens.

The Hon. WALTER ROTHSCHILD also sent for exhibition two new birds from British New Guinea, which he described as follows:—

IFRITA, gen. nov.

Of doubtful affinities, but probably near *Amalocichla* and *Cinclosoma*, agreeing with the former genus in the form of

the bill, but differing in its softer body-plumage, longer toes, softer tail and wings, and less graduated tail. Agreeing with *Amalocichla* in its soft plumage, but differing totally by the less compressed, shorter, and stouter bill. The wings are evidently of the usual rounded form of *Timeliidæ*, but cannot be described, being in moult. The tail is incomplete, but seems to be almost square; bill a little shorter than the head; the strong tarsus about half as long as the tail.

IFRITA CORONATA, sp. n.

Crown black, with a broad blue circle; lores and a narrow frontal line buff. Above the eye a small rusty buff patch, below the eye a black semicircle. Ear-coverts dark brown, behind the eye a patch of elongated white feathers. Rest of upper parts olive-brown; tail and wings dark olive-brown; quills with more yellowish-brown outer edges and rust-coloured inner edges. Some of the wing-coverts with buff tips. Below pale ochraceous, washed with olive-brown on the flanks and vent; throat lighter, almost whitish. Underwing-coverts bright ochraceous buff. Maxilla deep brown, mandible light-coloured. Wing about 88 mm., tail about 63, exposed part of bill 19, tarsus 29.

Low country east of Port Moresby, Brit. New Guinea.

CHARMOSYNA ATRATA, sp. n.

♂. Bill red; forehead purplish black, centre of crown darker. A patch of elongated lilac-blue feathers on the occiput; neck and upper back black, with a reddish shade; under surface dull black, sides of the breast dark green; back and upper wing-coverts dark green; lower back, rump, and sides of the belly carmine; rump with a large patch of lilac-blue; upper tail-coverts dark purplish green; quills black, outer webs broadly bordered with dark green; lateral rectrices green, with very narrow yellow edges near the tip, blackish towards the base, without any red; central rectrices absent; thighs purplish black; under tail-coverts dark purplish, with deep crimson tips; feet orange, with black claws. Wing 146 mm.

Hab. Mt. Scratchley, British New Guinea.

Mr. R. McD. HAWKER described two apparently new species of birds discovered by himself in Western Somali Land:—

APALIS VIRIDICEPS, sp. n.

A. similis A. flavocinctæ, sed maris pectore haud nigro notato, et pileo viridescente dorso concolore distinguenda. Long. tot. 4·7 poll., culm. 0·5, alæ 2·05, caudæ 2·2, tarsi 0·8.

Hab. Sheik Woolly, Somali Land.

MIRAFRA MARGINATA, sp. n.

M. similis M. cantillanti, sed marginibus tectricum alarum latissimè arenariis distinguenda. Long. tot. 5·0 poll., culm. 0·5, alæ 2·95, caudæ 1·85, tarsi 0·9.

Hab. Ugiagi, Somali Land.

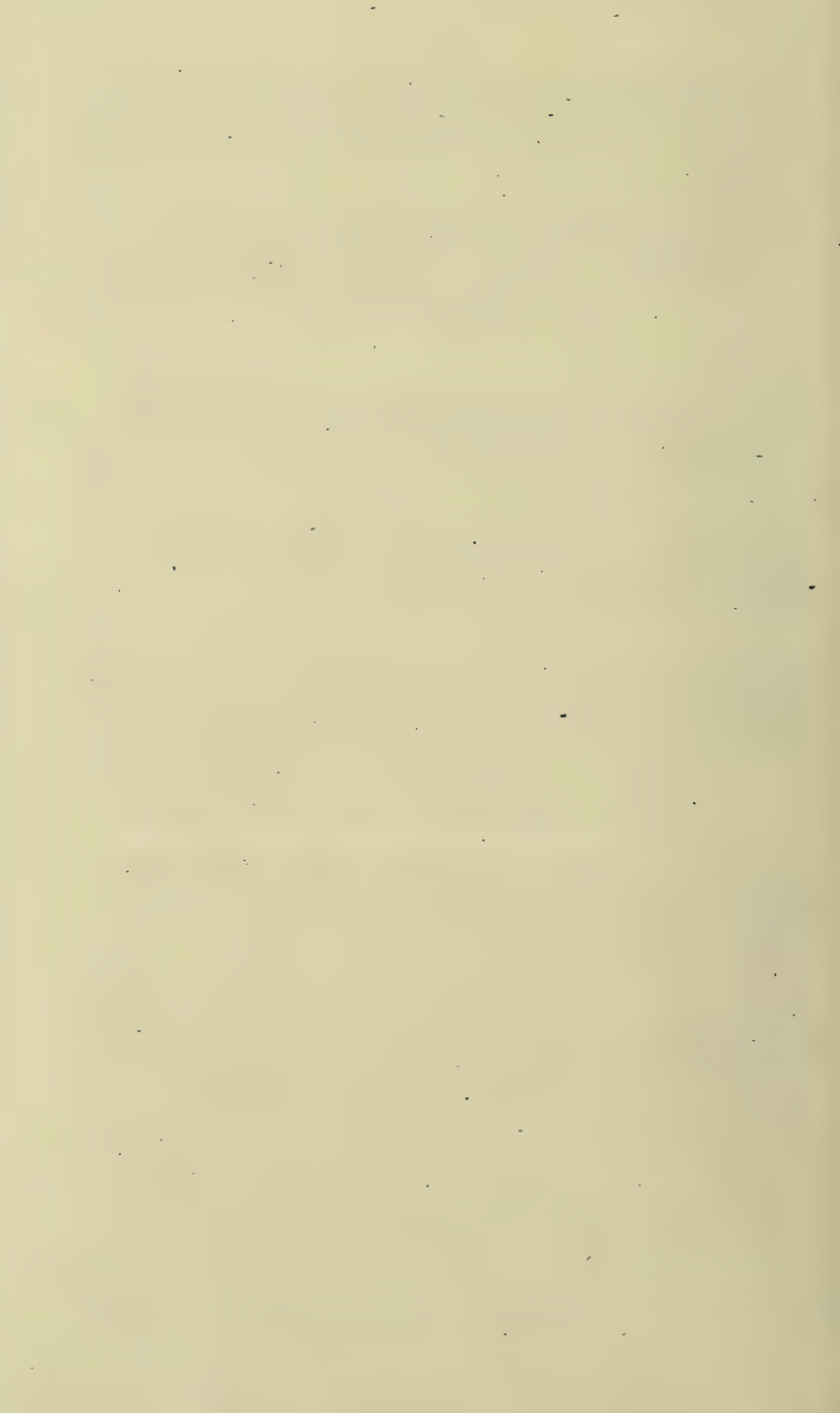
Mr. Hawker's collection also contained specimens of *Lanius pomeranus*, *Iynx torquilla*, *Falco cenchris*, *Motacilla alba*, and *Anthus campestris*.

Mr. H. J. PEARSON exhibited a case containing specimens of the adults with their young in down of the Reeve, Temminck's Stint, Dotterel, Red-necked Phalarope, and other species, obtained on his expedition to Waigats.

The next Meeting of the Club will be held on Wednesday, the 22nd of June, 1898, at 8.30, at the Restaurant Frascati, 32 Oxford Street; the dinner at 7 P.M.

(Signed)

P. L. SCLATER,	R. BOWDLER SHARPE,	HOWARD SAUNDERS,
Chairman.	Editor.	Sec. & Treas.



BULLETIN

OF THE

BRITISH ORNITHOLOGISTS' CLUB.

No. LV.

THE fifth-fourth Meeting of the Club was held at the Restaurant Frascati, 32 Oxford Street, on Wednesday, the 22nd of June, 1898.

Chairman : P. L. SCLATER, F.R.S.

Members present :—E. BIDWELL, P. CROWLEY, W. E. DE WINTON, W. WARDE FOWLER, J. E. HARTING, Major A. P. LOYD, A. HOLTE MACPHERSON, H. MUNT, R. NESHAM, HEATLEY NOBLE, H. J. PEARSON, F. PENROSE, M.D., W. P. PYCRAFT, R. H. READ, H. SAUNDERS (*Treasurer*), Dr. R. BOWDLER SHARPE (*Editor*), E. CAVENDISH TAYLOR, N. F. TICEHURST, L. A. WILLIAMS, C. A. WRIGHT, JOHN YOUNG.

Visitor : C. F. UNDERWOOD.

THE CHAIRMAN referred to the loss which the Club had recently suffered by the deaths of Mr. OSBERT SALVIN, F.R.S., and Mr. A. H. EVERETT; and expressions of sympathy with the families of the deceased were unanimously passed.

Mr. SCLATER exhibited the skins of two birds obtained by Capt. Wellby at high elevations during his recent adventurous journey across Northern Tibet. These were referred to *Syrrhaptes tibetanus*, shot on June 21st, 1897, in lat. $34^{\circ} 59'$,

[June 30th, 1898.]

long. $82^{\circ} 30'$, at an elevation of 17,130 feet, and a Hoopoe (*Upupa epops*), shot on the 28th of July, 1897, in lat. $35^{\circ} 20'$, long. $88^{\circ} 30'$, at an altitude of 16,690 feet.

Mr. H. SAUNDERS made some remarks upon a recent visit to Ireland, in company with Mr. R. J. Ussher, and stated that there did not seem to be any danger of the extermination of the Peregrine or the Chough in the south and west. Eagles were becoming scarce in the west, chiefly owing to poison laid out for foxes and hooded-crows. A considerable number of White Wagtails (*Motacilla alba*) passed along Killala Bay early in May, and an adult, with cotton-grass in its bill, was observed by Messrs. Ussher, Warren, and Saunders on June 10th, near Belmullet, co. Mayo.

The Hon. WALTER ROTHSCHILD sent for exhibition some very interesting photographs of places and episodes of bird-life in the Galapagos Islands, which had been taken by the naturalists attached to the recent expedition to the Archipelago.

Dr. R. BOWDLER SHARPE gave a short account of his recent visit to the Smolen Islands in Northern Norway, and exhibited some interesting specimens of the eggs of *Larus canus*; also the photographs he had taken of the different islands and the nests of the birds found thereon.

Mr. W. P. PYCRAFT made a communication concerning the avian "mesopterygoid" of W. K. Parker. This, he showed, did not represent a mesopterygoid, but was really a segmentation of the anterior end of the pterygoid, which, running forward along the internal border of the posterior end of the palatine, terminates over the posterior extremity of the vomer, with which it is often in actual contact. This is the permanent condition of these bones in the *Ratitæ*, where, however, the anterior end of the pterygoid does not segment off from the main body of the bone. In the *Carinatæ*, later

in life the segmented anterior end fuses with the palatine and thus disappears, a true joint being formed behind this, the pterygo-palatine articulation. Thus, the pterygoid of adult modern *Carinatae* represents only the posterior portion of that bone, the anterior portion having fused with the palatine. The matter will be dealt with fully in a forthcoming paper.

Mr. C. F. UNDERWOOD described four apparently new species of birds from Costa Rica and Guatemala :—

TINAMUS SALVINI, sp. n.

T. similis T. fuscipennis, sed multo minor, et secundariis extus pallidè rufo fasciatim notatis: præpectore et pectore summo olivascenti-griseis, fulvo transfasciatis: abdomine albicanti-fulvo, distinctè nigro transfasciato. Long. tot. 10·5 poll., culm. 1·15, alæ 7·2, caudæ 2·0, tarsi 2·0.

Hab. Carrillo, Costa Rica, Nov. 30, 1897 (*C. F. U.*).

CHLOROSPINGUS OLIVACEICEPS, sp. n.

C. similis C. canigulari, Lafr., sed pileo olivaceo dorso concolore distinguendus. Long. tot. 5·0 poll., culm. 0·15, alæ 2·6, caudæ 2·05, tarsi 0·75.

Hab. Carrillo, Costa Rica, Nov. 24, 1897 (*C. F. U.*).

ICTERUS GUALANENSIS, sp. n.

Similis I. giraudi, sed capitis nigredine usque ad occiput extensâ. Long. tot. 8·5 poll., culm. 1·0, alæ 4·15, caudæ 4·1, tarsi 1·1.

Hab. Gualan, Guatemala, July 11, 1897 (*C. F. U.*).

PICOLAPTES SATURATION, sp. n.

Similis P. compresso, sed minor, rostro minore nigricantiore, notæ et gastræo saturatiore brunneis, maculis longitudinalibus conspicuè et latiùs nigro marginatis. Long. tot. 7 poll., culm. 0·95, alæ 3·5, caudæ 3·15, tarsi 0·7.

Hab. Gualan, Guatemala, Aug. 18, 1897 (*C. F. U.*).

Dr. BOWDLER SHARPE exhibited some specimens of birds recently received by the British Museum from Mount Albert Edward, in British New Guinea. One of these appeared

to be the interesting Weaver-Finch described by Mr. De Vis as *Oreostruthus fuliginosus* (Ibis, 1897, p. 338; 1898, p. 175), excepting that the tail is described as having "many narrow blackish bars," whereas in the specimen exhibited it is uniform brown.

Two species of *Munia* appeared to be undescribed, and Dr. Sharpe proposed the following names for them:—

MUNIA SCRATCHLEYANA, sp. n.

M. similis M. canicipiti, sed dorso rufescenti-brunneo, præpectore cinereo, pectore et hypochondriis pallidè cervino-rufis distinguenda. Long. tot. 3·8 poll., culm. 0·45, alæ 2·05, caudæ 1·45, tarsi 0·55.

MUNIA NIGRITORQUIS, sp. n.

M. similis M. spectabili, sed torque pectorali nigro et hypochondriis nigris distinguenda. Long. tot. 4·3 poll., culm. 0·5, alæ 2·5, caudæ 1·75, tarsi 0·8.

Mr. W. L. SCLATER sent the description of a new species of Flycatcher from Inhambane, which he proposed to call:—

ERYTHROCERCUS FRANCISI, sp. n.

E. similis E. livingstonii, capite cinereo, sed caudâ nigro terminatâ distinguendus. Long. tot. 4·2 poll., culm. 0·4, alæ 1·85, caudæ 1·9, tarsi 0·7.

Mr. ROBERT READ exhibited some eggs of the British *Turdidæ*, showing an interesting transition from spotless to deeply spotted specimens, especially in *T. musicus*.

The next Meeting of the Club will probably be held on Wednesday, the 19th of October, 1898, at 8.30, at the Restaurant Frascati, 32 Oxford Street, and the Dinner at 7 P.M.; but due notice will be sent early in that month.

(Signed)

P. L. SCLATER,	R. BOWDLER SHARPE,	HOWARD SAUNDERS,
Chairman.	Editor.	Sec. & Treas.

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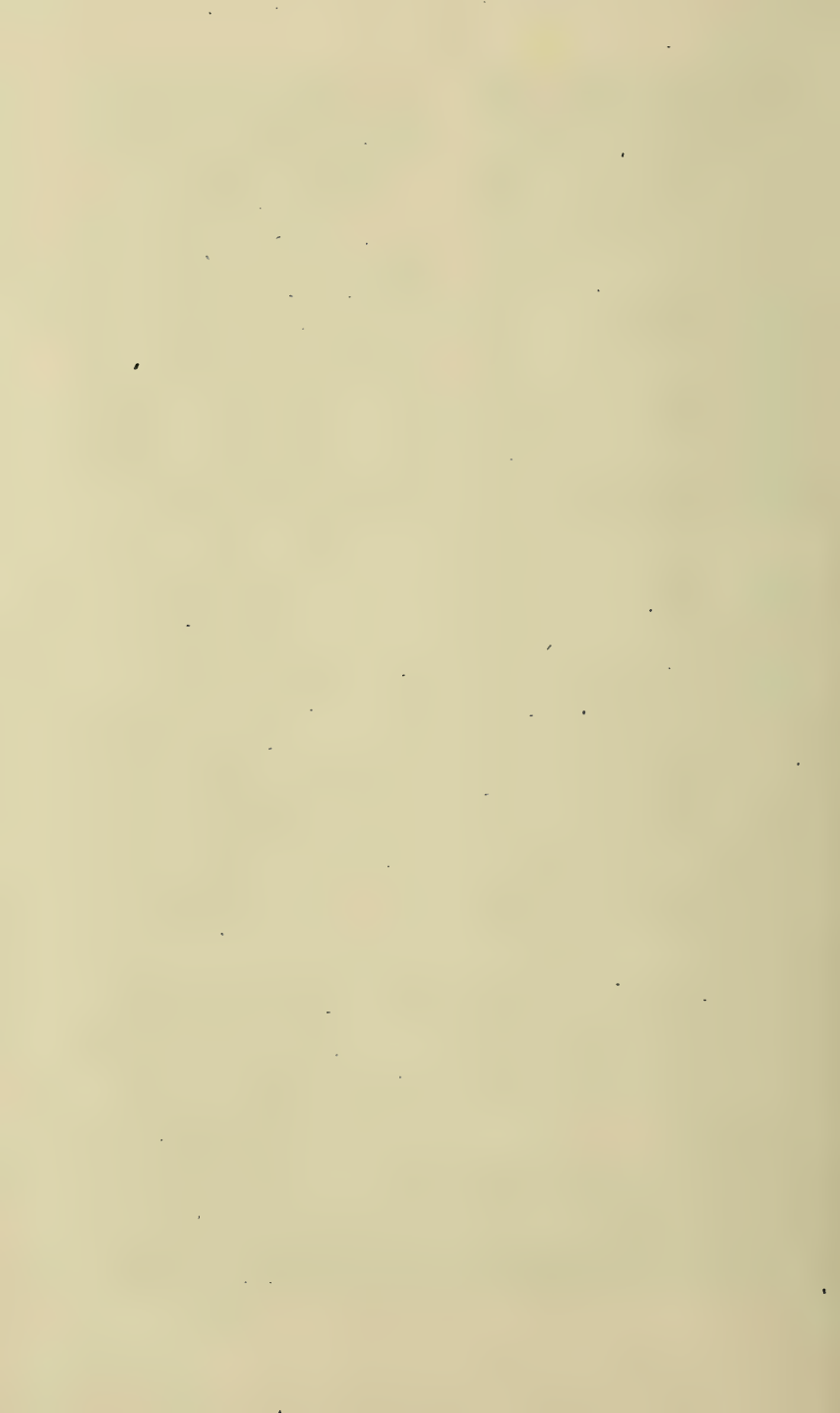
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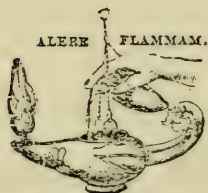
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BULLETIN
OF THE
BRITISH ORNITHOLOGISTS' CLUB.

EDITED BY
R. BOWDLER SHARPE, LL.D.

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SESSION 1898-9.

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AUGUST 1899.



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PREFACE.

WITH a roll of one hundred and thirty-one active Members and a prospective addition of six more of our newly elected Members of the British Ornithologists' Union, the close of the Seventh Session of the B. O. Club finds the latter in a more satisfactory position than ever. Its financial condition has correspondingly improved, and the Committee have had the satisfaction of presenting to the Members of the Club the very useful 'Index' to the Genera adopted in the 'Catalogue of Birds,' the preparation of which is due to the forethought of Dr. P. L. Sclater, the Chairman of the Club.

The Editor begs to express his sincere regret that the pressure of other engagements has compelled Mr. Howard Saunders to resign the office of Secretary and Treasurer at the end of the present session. Mr. Saunders was one of the original founders of the Club, and has worked in its interests with a loyalty and good fellowship which the Editor cannot too gratefully acknowledge. He is sure that this feeling will be shared by every member of the B. O. Club, which owes so much of its success to the zeal and tact with which its Treasurer has managed its affairs. The office of Secretary and Treasurer will probably be assumed by our excellent member Mr. W. E. De Winton, in whose hands the Editor feels sure that the affairs of the Club will be maintained in the same prosperous condition that exists at present.

(Signed)

R. BOWDLER SHARPE,

Editor.

August 20th, 1899.

ERRATA ET CORRIGENDA.

Page vii, line 13 from bottom, for "NESOMIMUS CARRINGTONI" read "NESOMIMUS
BARRINGTONI."

„ ix, line 9 from bottom, for "*S. nipalensis*" read "*B. nipalensis*."

RULES
OF THE
BRITISH ORNITHOLOGISTS' CLUB.

(As amended 20th April, 1898.)

I. This Club was founded for the purpose of facilitating the social intercourse of Members of the British Ornithologists' Union. Any Member of that Union can become a Member of this Club on payment (to the Treasurer) of an entrance fee of *Five Shillings* and a subscription of *Five Shillings* for the current Session. Resignation of the Union involves resignation of the Club.

II. Members who have not paid their subscriptions before the last Meeting of the Session shall cease, *ipso facto*, to be Members of the Club, but may be reinstated on payment of arrears, *and* a new entrance fee.

III. Members of the British Ornithologists' Union may be introduced as Visitors at the Meetings of the Club, but every Member of the Club who introduces a Member of the B. O. U. as a Visitor (to dinner or to the Meeting afterwards) shall pay *One Shilling* to the Treasurer, *on each occasion*.

IV. The Club shall meet, as a rule, on the Third Wednesday in every Month, from October to June inclusive, at such hour and place as may be arranged by the Committee. At these Meetings papers upon ornithological subjects shall be read, specimens exhibited, and discussion invited.

V. An Abstract of the Proceedings of the B. O. C. shall be printed as soon as possible after each Meeting, under the title of the 'Bulletin of the British Ornithologists' Club,' and distributed gratis to every Member *who has paid his subscription*. Copies of this Bulletin shall be published and sold at *One Shilling* each.

VI. The affairs of this Club shall be managed by a Committee, to consist of the Editors of 'The Ibis,' the Editor of the 'Bulletin,' and the Secretary and Treasurer, *ex officio*; with three other Members, one of whom shall be changed every year. The Committee shall have power to make and alter Bye-laws.

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 WIGLESWORTH, LIONEL W. ; 42 Gloucester Place, Portman Square,
 W.

[Members are requested to keep the Secretary informed of
 any changes in their addresses.]

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BULLETIN

OF THE

BRITISH ORNITHOLOGISTS' CLUB.

No. LVI.

THE fifty-fifth Meeting of the Club was held at the Restaurant Frascati, 32 Oxford Street, on Wednesday, the 19th of October, 1898.

Chairman : P. L. SCLATER, F.R.S.

Members present :—G. E. H. BARRETT-HAMILTON, E. BIDWELL, HON. R. COKE, A. F. CROSSMAN, R. A. CROWLEY, P. CROWLEY, W. E. DE WINTON, DR. F. D. DREWITT, E. N. F. FENWICK, DR. H. O. FORBES, W. R. OGILVIE GRANT, G. H. CATON HAIGH, E. HARTERT, Major A. P. LOYD, A. E. MAXWELL, Rt. Hon. Sir HERBERT MAXWELL, Bart., M.P., E. G. B. MEADE-WALDO, H. MUNT, E. NEALE, R. NESHAM, E. W. OATES, H. J. PEARSON, Dr. F. PENROSE, T. DISBY PIGOTT, C.B., H. L. POPHAM, W. P. PYCRAFT, H. SAUNDERS (*Treasurer*), H. SCHERREN, R. BOWDLER SHARPE (*Editor*), W. B. TEGETMEIER, N. F. TICEHURST, A. B. R. TREVOR-BATTYE, H. M. WALLIS, WATKIN WATKINS, J. I. S. WHITAKER, C. WHYMPER, J. WILKINSON, L. A. WILLIAMS, SCOTT B. WILSON, H. F. WITHERBY, C. A. WRIGHT, J. YOUNG.

Visitors : D. LE SOUFFE (*Guest of the Club*), C. E. FAGAN, A. FITCH, E. A. FITCH, D. McDONALD, Dr. DONALDSON SMITH, A. L. STURGE.

The TREASURER announced that the first business of the Meeting was to choose the Officers of the Club for the new

[October 31st, 1898.]

Session, and the following were unanimously elected by show of hands :—

Chairman : P. L. SCLATER, F.R.S.
Vice-Chairmen { PHILIP CROWLEY.
 H. J. PEARSON.

Mr. W. E. DE WINTON was elected a Member of the Committee in the place of Major A. P. LOYD, who retired by rotation.

The CHAIRMAN gave the following address :—

BROTHER MEMBERS OF THE B. O. C.—

On opening the Seventh Session of the British Ornithologists' Club, I will venture to trouble you with a few words.

As the Editors of 'The Ibis' have already remarked in their preface to the volume for the present year, one of the leading ornithological events of 1898 is the completion of the 'Catalogue of Birds.' The twenty-sixth volume of this work, prepared by Dr. Bowdler Sharpe and Mr. Ogilvie Grant, the only one required to finish the series, will, I am assured, be laid before the Trustees at their meeting on the 22nd inst., and be ready for issue very shortly afterwards. Thus, after a period of twenty-five years, this most important piece of ornithological work has been brought to a conclusion. No human product is perfect, and the Catalogue has been, and will be, the subject of many criticisms. One obvious defect in it is its want of uniformity, the various authors having been permitted, owing to the wise discretion of the authorities, very liberal opportunities for the expression of their own views in their respective portions, although a general adherence to one plan has been rightly insisted upon. But when the enormous amount of labour required for this work and the absolute necessity of employing more than one author upon such a huge task are considered, it will be obvious that greater uniformity was practically unattainable. In the case of the 'Catalogue of Reptiles and Batrachians,' where the series of specimens and species was not so large,

the herpetologists are fortunate in having had the whole of the work performed upon a uniform system by the indefatigable energy of a single naturalist.

The 'Catalogue of Birds,' as complete in twenty-seven volumes, gives us an account of 11,614 species of this Class of Vertebrates, divided into 2255 genera and 124 families. It has been prepared by eleven authors, all Members of the British Ornithologists' Union, and with one exception, I believe (who is not a resident in England), now or formerly Members of this Club. I think it will be universally allowed that we have, in this case, a great and most useful undertaking brought to a successful conclusion.

Another good piece of ornithological work, likewise the product of a Member of this Club, which has just made its appearance, is Mr. Beddard's volume on the 'Structure and Classification of Birds.' It seems to me to be a most useful Manual on this subject, profusely illustrated, and full of convenient references to further information on various points which it would have been impossible to compress into a single volume. It will be found to be a mine of wealth to those who choose to dig in it, and contains a good summary, not only of the results arrived at by Mr. Beddard himself, but also by Garrod and Forbes, his illustrious predecessors in the office which he holds.

Mr. A. H. Evans, whose volume upon Birds for the 'Cambridge Natural History' we have been long expecting, informs me that this work is finished, except the index, and will be shortly published. We shall all welcome its appearance with the greatest pleasure. A second work that Mr. Evans, together with Mr. Scott-Wilson, is engaged upon is the 'Aves Hawaiianenses,' of which we have long been waiting for the final part. This, I am assured, is now in a forward state, and is likely to be issued without further delay.

From information received from Mr. Rothschild, I am pleased to be able to say that his somewhat parallel illustrated work on the 'Avifauna of Laysan,' of which the last part was issued in 1893, will also be shortly brought to a

conclusion, and that the third and final part will be issued in the course of next year. Taken together, these two works will form a most valuable contribution to our knowledge of the Avifauna of the Northern Pacific. I must also not forget to mention, amongst recent contributions to our science, the excellent work of Dr. Meyer and Mr. Wigglesworth on the birds of Celebes—one of the most elaborate and complete ornithological monographs on the birds of a special district ever prepared. Celebes, I may remark, as a debatable land between the Australian and Oriental Regions, was in special need of the full treatment and discussion which it has here received from the authors of this work.

But the brethren of the B. O. C. and their friends, I think I may say, are at present not less active in the field than in the cabinet. We are fortunate in having with us to-night the two principal members of the new expedition to Socotra and Southern Arabia which will leave England on the 28th inst. It will, of course, take up Natural History in every branch, but with Dr. Forbes and Mr. Ogilvie Grant as its leaders, and a trained taxidermist in attendance, we need not fear that the interests of Ornithology will in any way be overlooked. In Socotra itself much has been already done, but little or nothing has been ascertained ornithologically of the southern coast of Arabia; and we know, from Bent's writings, that even in this commonly supposed barren district, bird-life is abundant in certain spots, which we trust may be within reach of the Expedition.

Besides the Socotran Expedition many other explorations by various members of the B. O. U. are in progress or in contemplation. Capt. Boyd Alexander, who has worked so well in the Cape Verde Islands, is struggling through the middle of Africa from the Cape to Cairo. Under present circumstances he seems likely to come out successfully, and will, no doubt, bring information on birds, if not specimens, with him. Mr. Lort Phillips hopes to return to his favourite quarters in Somali-land during the course of the present winter, and expects to get together the supplementary mate-

rials still required for the preparation of his proposed work on the birds of that most interesting country. Mr. John Whitehead, who has added so much to our knowledge of the zoology of the Philippines, proposes to return to the same country very shortly, in order to continue his researches in a field which he knows so well and in which he takes such great interest. Before leaving, he has placed in the hands of the Editors of 'The Ibis' a series of valuable field notes on the birds collected during his last journey. These will appear in the forthcoming volume of our Journal. Mr. Alfred Sharpe, C.B., who is shortly returning to his post in Nyasaland, promises to continue the employment of collectors in different parts of that Protectorate, the zoology of which he, following in the footsteps of Sir Harry Johnston, has already done so much to investigate.

Finally, I may remark that, as will be seen on turning over the pages of contents in the last volume of 'The Ibis,' we have correspondents interested in our favourite subject in nearly every part of the world, and that the great difficulty of the Editors is to compress so many valuable contributions within the compass of an annual volume.

Before resuming my seat, I wish to say one more word. Our Government, in connection with that of Egypt, has just taken possession of an enormous district in Africa, probably nearly equal to half Europe in extent. It sternly warns all intruders off, even when they are alleged to be of "no political influence." When it comes to regulate the administration of these new territories, it is to be hoped that the interests of Natural History will not be entirely overlooked. Although the Upper Nile districts have been traversed and investigated by many well-known naturalists, there is still very much to be done in these teeming regions of animal-life. We Englishmen are ready and willing to undertake, by individual efforts, much work that in other countries is provided for by State-Explorers; but it is not too much to expect that our Government should at least help us by providing adequate facilities and occasional assistance, and even, perhaps, by contributions to the expensive process of

bringing the results thus acquired completely before the world.

A complete copy of the twenty-sixth volume of the 'Catalogue of Birds' was laid on the table by Dr. BOWDLER SHARPE.

Mr. G. H. CATON HAIGH exhibited and made remarks upon a Warbler, *Luscinola schwarzi* (Radde), which he had shot on the 1st of this month, near North Cotes, Lincolnshire. The large bastard-primary easily distinguished the members of this genus (and those of *Herbivocula*) from the *Phylloscopi*. The summer-home of *L. schwarzi* appeared to be in South-eastern Siberia, and reached about as far west as Tomsk, according to Godlewski, who had mentioned the powerful note of the bird; this was described by Mr. Haigh as disproportionately loud, and it led to the thorough beating-out of the hedge in which the bird was skulking. It would be remembered that easterly winds had prevailed for a considerable time. So far, *L. schwarzi* seemed not to have been previously recorded within the European area. A coloured figure of the specimen would appear in the next number of 'The Ibis.'

Mr. HAIGH also exhibited a specimen of a young female of the Barred Warbler (*Sylvia nisoria*), which he shot near North Cotes on the 5th of September last. This was the thirteenth example obtained in the British Islands.

Mr. N. F. TICEHURST exhibited a Pectoral Sandpiper (*Heteropygia maculata*) obtained between Lydd and Rye, in Kent, on the 2nd of August, 1898.

The Hon. WALTER ROTHSCCHILD sent a pair of a new *Pitta*, which he described as follows:—

PITTA MEEKI, sp. n.

Superficially resembling the common *P. mackloti* from New Guinea, from which, however, it differs in the absence of the large black spot on the throat, which is only indicated by a dusky shade, the paler and more greyish chin and upper

throat, the light brown (not deep rufous) hind-neck, and the pale greyish-brown (not blackish) crown.

Hab. Rossel Island, where Mr. Albert S. Meek has collected a small series.

Mr. ROTHSCHILD also sent for exhibition a skin of the rare *Pitta novæhiberniæ*, Ramsay. This species had been long ago described by Dr. Ramsay and the differences from *P. mackloti* had been stated in the original description. Count Salvadori afterwards expressed an opinion that it was the same as *P. mackloti*, because he had seen specimens from New Britain which did not differ from *P. mackloti*—evidently in the belief that the ornis of New Ireland was the same as that of New Britain. Now Captain Cayley Webster had sent a series of a *Pitta* from New Hanover which agreed perfectly with the description of Ramsay, and differed much from *P. mackloti* in the absence of the black throat and breast-band, as well as in having the nape and hind-neck bright red. The species must therefore, for the present, bear the name of *P. novæhiberniæ*.

Mr. ROTHSCHILD further described and sent for exhibition, together with its nearest ally, *N. melanotis*, a pair of a new *Nesomimus*, which he described as follows:—

+NESOMIMUS CARRINGTONI, sp. n.

Nearest to *N. melanotis*, from which it differs in its longer bill, shorter wing, somewhat paler upper surface, and less heavy black spots on the flanks. Wing, ♂ 110, ♀ 100 mm.; tail, ♂ 110, ♀ 105; culmen, ♂ 34, ♀ 32.

Hab. Barrington Island, Galapagos.

Mr. ROTHSCHILD also sent for exhibition specimens of *Tanysiptera rosseliana*, *Syma megarhyncha*, Salvad., *Strepera rosa-alba*, De Vis (= *Cracticus louisianensis*, Tristr.), *Parotia helenæ*, De Vis, which, with the exception of the *Tanysiptera* and *Cracticus*, had not before been seen in this country, nor shown to the B. O. Club, and a series of *Phonygammus jamesi*, Sharpe, showing the plumage at different ages.

Mr. ERNST HARTERT described the following new birds and exhibited their type specimens, together with examples of allied species for comparison :—

PODARGUS MEEKI, sp. n.

Intermediate in size between *P. intermedius*, Hartert, and *P. ocellatus*, Q. & G., and differing from both in the female not being rufous, but apparently always brownish, and much more heavily marked with black on the under surface than the male and darker above. Wing 190–195 mm., tail 167–180.

Discovered by Albert S. Meek on Sudest Island.

ÆGOTHELES PULCHER, sp. n.

Similar to *Æ. insignis*, Salvad., from Arfak, but differing in its larger size, and by the absence of round buff spots on the back and the middle of the breast. The upper wing-coverts have no blackish bars; the inner webs of the remiges are deep blackish brown, the outer webs chestnut-rufous with some faint blackish spots on the first three primaries, but without light markings. The central rectrices are chestnut-rufous with some narrow blackish cross-bars, but without any light markings. Under tail-coverts pale rufous at base, buffy white at the tip, with a narrow rufous border. Wing 172 mm., tail approximately 150 (very much abraded), tarsus 21.

One specimen from the mountains of British New Guinea.

PACHYCEPHALA ROSSELIANA, sp. n.

Somewhat intermediate between *P. melanura* with a black tail and *P. collaris* with an olive tail, but having the tail blackish, olive at base, the tips and edges seen on the outer webs of the rectrices broader on the central pair. The yellow collar on the hind-neck is narrower than in *P. collaris*, and slightly interrupted in the middle by an olive-green patch. The feathers of the thighs are black at the base, yellow at the tip, and with a white spot on one web before the yellow tip. Female above dark olive-brown, more greenish on the

rump and upper tail-coverts. Tail with the outer webs more olive than in the male. Chin and throat white, with some dusky tips to the feathers; breast and abdomen yellow, separated from the white throat by an ill-defined brownish band. Wing in the male 64-68 mm., tail 68.

Discovered by Albert S. Meek on Rossel Island.

PACHYCEPHALA ALBERTI, sp. n.

Closely allied to *P. griseiceps*, G. R. Gray, but with a longer and more powerful bill; throat and breast with more distinct dark shaft-lines in the adult birds, tail with very distinct dark cross-bars in certain lights, wing and tail longer. Wing 87-89 mm., tail 67-68.

Discovered on Sudest Island by Albert S. Meek, in whose honour it is named. It is, perhaps, only a subspecies of *P. griseiceps*, another very distinct subspecies of which is *P. jobiensis*, Salvad.

CYCLOPSITTACUS INSEPARABILIS, sp. n.

Mr. A. S. Meek has sent a fine series of a new *Cyclopsittacus* from Sudest Island, in which the sexes are alike in coloration, and resemble very much the female of *Cyclopsittacus virago*, Hartert, from Fergusson Island, except that the sides of the head are green and not bluish as in the female of *C. virago*. In the latter species the sexes are widely different.

Mr. OSILVIE GRANT exhibited on behalf of Mr. J. D. La Touche an example of a new species of Short-wing:—

BRACHYPTERYX CAROLINÆ La Touche, sp. n.

Adult male. Very similar to the adult female of *S. nipalensis*, the chest and fore-neck being largely mixed with white. Total length 5·2 inches, culmen 0·48, wing 2·45, tail 1·5, tarsus 1·1.

Adult female. Differs from the male in having the white eyebrow-stripe nearly obsolete, and the fore-neck and chest nearly uniform pale ochraceous-brown. Total length 5 inches, culmen 0·45, wing 2·3, tail 1·35, tarsus 1·1.

As in *B. nipalensis*, the bill is relatively slender; in the

closely allied *B. leucophrys*, from Java and Lombok, the bill is stouter and the upper parts darker.

Hab. Kuatun, N.W. Fohkien.

Mr. OGILVIE GRANT exhibited on behalf of Mr. C. B. Rickett the type of a new species of Warbler:—

LUSCINIOLA MELANORHYNCHA Rickett, sp. n.

Adult male. Nearest to *L. russula* (Slater), but at once distinguished by its black bill, differently shaped wing, longer tail, and darker colour, especially on the sides, flanks, and under tail-coverts, which are brown instead of pale buff. The 2nd primary considerably shorter than the 10th, the 5th slightly longer than 4th and 6th. Total length 5·5 inches, culmen 0·4, wing 2, tail 2·3, tarsus 0·75.

Hab. Kuatun, N.W. Fohkien.

Mr. Grant remarked:—"Both this species and the bird described under the name of *Cettia russula* by the Rev. H. H. Slater have twelve tail-feathers and belong to the genus *Luscinola*, the latter species being nearly allied to *L. intermedia* (Oates). Though *L. russula* superficially resembles *Cettia pallidipes*, with which Mr. Slater compared it, it is structurally very different."

Mr. GRANT also exhibited a specimen of the genus *Eulaestoma* of De Vis, from Mt. Albert Edward, in S.E. New Guinea; it was apparently a young individual of *E. nigritorquis*, De Vis, but had no black pectoral collar and a good deal of rufous on the wings.

Mr. D. LE SOUËF brought for exhibition the nests and eggs of *Manucodia gouldi*, *Graucalus swainsoni*, and *Ptilorhis alberti*, from Northern Queensland. He also showed, with the aid of a lime-light lantern, a remarkable series of photographs of the nests and eggs of Australian birds taken by himself during his expeditions in that continent.

Mr. SCLATER stated that on the 27th of June last he had had the pleasure of visiting a nesting-place of the Spoonbill

(*Platalea leucorodia*) in Holland, which he had not previously seen, and had found about 300 pairs breeding there in the reeds on one side of a lake. The lake was fortunately within a large enclosed area owned by a private individual, and strictly preserved. Neither eggs nor birds were allowed to be disturbed, and there was every prospect of this (believed to be the largest breeding-place of the Spoonbill now existing in Holland) being maintained securely. Two other nesting-places of this bird formerly visited by Mr. Sclater, one on the Nieuwerkerker Platt in 1867 (see Gould's 'Birds of Great Britain,' iv. pl. 22), and the other on the Horster Meer in 1877 (see 'Ibis,' 1877, p. 413), had been destroyed by the drainage of the swamps in which they were situated.

The next Meeting of the Club will be held on Wednesday, the 16th of November, 1898, at 8.30, at the Restaurant Frascati, 32 Oxford Street; the Dinner at 7 P.M.

(Signed)

P. L. SCLATER,	R. BOWDLER SHARPE,	HOWARD SAUNDERS,
<i>Chairman.</i>	<i>Editor.</i>	<i>Sec. & Treas.</i>

BULLETIN

OF THE

BRITISH ORNITHOLOGISTS' CLUB.

No. LVII.

THE fifty-sixth Meeting of the Club was held at the Restaurant Frascati, 32 Oxford Street, on Wednesday, the 16th of November, 1898.

Chairman : P. L. SCLATER, F.R.S.

Members present :—E. BIDWELL, A. F. CROSSMAN, P. CROWLEY, W. E. DE WINTON, H. E. DRESSER, Dr. F. D. DREWITT, E. N. F. FENWICK, E. HARTERT, P. H. MUNN, H. C. MUNRO, R. NESHAM, H. J. PEARSON, F. PENROSE, M.D., E. LORT PHILLIPS, R. H. READ, H. SAUNDERS (*Treasurer*), H. SCHERREN, R. BOWDLER SHARPE (*Editor*), Major HORACE A. TERRY, N. F. TICEHURST, J. WILKINSON, L. A. WILLIAMS, H. F. WITHERBY.

Visitors : Dr. P. S. ABRAHAM, W. DRURY, F. D. GRAHAM, C. B. HORSBURGH, A. D. SAPSWORTH, A. F. R. WOLLASTON.

The Hon. WALTER ROTHSCHILD sent for exhibition an egg of the "Twelve-Wired Bird of Paradise" (*Seleucides ignotus* or *S. albus*). It had been found in an open nest in the Pandanus-swamp on the Vanapa River in British New Guinea, on a Pandanus tree. The nest was a large structure, about 10 inches across and 6 inches high, consisting externally of dry Pandanus leaves, then of pieces of rotten wood, and lastly of small twigs, the cup being rather flat and by no means softly lined. The single egg found

[November 28th, 1898.]

resembled closely those of other *Paradiseide*, and especially those of the genus *Ptilorhis*, being of about the size of a Rook's egg, and of a cream colour, with more or less longitudinal rufous-brown and purplish-grey spots, which were most frequent near the thick end. It measured 40 mm. in length, and 22·5 on its broadest part.

Mr. ERNST HARTERT exhibited four new species of "Thick-heads" (*Pachycephala*) and described them as follows:—

PACHYCEPHALA KUEHNI, sp. n.

Resembles closely *P. cinerascens*, Salvad., from Ternate, Batjan, Tidore, Halmaheira, and Morotai, but the male differs in having the abdomen and breast ochraceous buff, the throat pale brownish, while the abdomen in the adult male of *P. cinerascens* is white, or greyish white, and the throat and breast are ashy grey. The upper surface is slightly more brownish. The female differs from the female of *P. cinerascens* in being browner above, and in having the underside ochraceous buff, without any grey, and the dark streaks along the shafts are much more developed.

Hab. Little Key Island. Named in honour of Mr. Heinrich Kuehn, who has sent a small series of both sexes, adult and young, of this new species.

PACHYCEPHALA EXAMINATA, sp. n.

Differs from *P. lineolata*, Wall., of the Sula Islands, in having the abdomen (which is white with or without a faint ochreous tinge in *P. lineolata*) ochraceous buff, and the under tail-coverts buff instead of white. The wing is a little longer, measuring 81–82 mm. The back is more brownish, the grey cap thus becoming more conspicuously in contrast to the back. In the male the throat is white, the chest washed with grey. The female has the underside uniform ochraceous buff and the wing only about 78 mm. long. (For the name of the Sula form cf. 'Novitates Zoologicæ,' vol. iv. p. 131.) If the name *P. griseonota* should be adopted it

could only apply to the *Sula* bird and not to the bird from Buru, judging from the description.

Hab. Buru.

PACHYCEPHALA MEEKI, sp. n.

♂ *ad.* Similar to *P. leucogaster*, but differs in having the black crown less sharply defined and almost passing into the colour of the back, which is much darker and more blackish than in *P. leucogaster*. The tail and upper tail-coverts are almost pure black and much darker than in the last-named species. The sides of the breast and abdomen are grey, not white. The wing is shorter, measuring only about 82 mm. (against about 90 in *P. leucogaster*). *P. meeki* also differs from *P. arcitorques* in its grey sides and darker back, the latter species being more closely allied to *P. leucogaster* than to *P. meeki*. Measurements of the male: wing 81-82, tail 64, culmen from base 17 mm.

♀ *ad.* Above mouse-brown, more greyish on the upper tail-coverts; an indistinct line over the eyes and ear-coverts rufous-brown; throat buffy white; remainder of under surface rusty buff; chest with some small and narrow blackish shaft-lines; middle of abdomen white; sides of chest and flanks washed with grey; under wing- and under tail-coverts pale buff.

Hab. Rossel Island, Louisiade Archipelago.

PACHYCEPHALA CONTEMPTA, sp. n.

The yellow *Pachycephala* of Lord Howe Island has been treated as the same as *P. gutturalis* in the 'Catalogue of Birds,' vol. viii., where at least three different species or subspecies are united under the title of *P. gutturalis*; but *P. contempta*, as I propose to call the Lord Howe Island form, differs from *P. gutturalis* in having the basal portion of the tail for more than half of its length greenish, often for two-thirds of its length, in having the bill stronger and longer, in having the yellow band on the hind-neck interrupted by pale olive-green in the middle, and in being generally larger. Wing 92-94, tail 83, culmen from base 17-18 mm. Another

closely allied form is *P. occidentalis*, which, however, has the base of the tail grey and the bill rather short.

Mr. HARTERT further described a new Humming-bird, which he called

CYANOLESBIA BERLEPSCHI, sp. n.

This was described as the most beautiful of all the *Cyanolestbia*, and perhaps the most distinct species of the genus, being more different than any of those *inter se*. The female was easily recognizable from that of the allied species in having the breast and entire abdomen white instead of cinnamon-rufous. The male seemed to be nearest to that of *Cyanolestbia margarethæ* from Caracas and *C. kingi* from Bogotá, but the outer tail-feathers were longer and much wider, of a peculiar glittering metallic blue; the central rectrices were not green as in *C. margarethæ*, but purplish blue with a greenish glitter at the tips. Wing 71, tail 155, outer rectrices 9-10 mm. wide.

Mr. Hartert stated that the Hon. Walter Rothschild had received a male and four females of this bird from the hills of Cumana in Venezuela, and that there was a second male from Caripé in the British Museum, with the tail not fully grown.

The typical specimens were collected by Mr. Caracciolo and sent to the Tring Museum by Mr. André, of Trinidad.

Mr. HOWARD SAUNDERS exhibited, on behalf of Mr. W. Drury, a specimen of the Wood-Sandpiper, *Totanus glareola*, shot by the latter near Lough Cullin, co. Mayo, on the 5th of September last. Only three examples of this species had been previously recorded from Ireland, and all of them from one locality, viz. in co. Wicklow.

Dr. R. BOWDLER SHARPE exhibited a specimen of the Black-headed Weaver-Finch, (*Munia atricapilla*) which had been presented to the British Museum by Mr. G. Hubert Woods, who had shot it out of a flock of twelve individuals in Suffolk on the 26th of October last.

Mr. HARTERT stated that he had also seen a small flock of these Weaver-Finches in the reed-beds on the Tring Reservoir, and that one had been recently shot there.

Dr. BOWDLER SHARPE read a paper on the present status of the birds in the "British List," which he believed to amount at the present moment to 445. A discussion ensued, in which the Chairman, Mr. Howard Saunders, Mr. H. E. Dresser, Mr. H. J. Pearson, Mr. W. E. De Winton, Mr. Hartert, and others took part. It was decided that the subject should be further discussed at a subsequent meeting of the Club.

Mr. ROBERT READ made some remarks on the apparent variation in the downs of certain species of Ducks at different seasons of the year. Specimens would be exhibited at the next meeting of the Club, when the subject would be further explained.

The next Meeting of the Club will be held on Wednesday, the 21st of December, 1898, at 8.30, at the Restaurant Frascati, 32 Oxford Street ; the dinner at 7 P.M.

(Signed)

P. L. SCLATER,	R. BOWDLER SHARPE,	HOWARD SAUNDERS,
<i>Chairman.</i>	<i>Editor.</i>	<i>Sec. & Treas.</i>

BULLETIN

OF THE

BRITISH ORNITHOLOGISTS' CLUB.

No. LVIII.

THE fifty-seventh Meeting of the Club was held at the Restaurant Frascati, 32 Oxford Street, on Wednesday, the 21st of December, 1898.

Chairman : P. L. SCLATER, F.R.S.

Members present :—E. BIDWELL, Major COWIE, R.E., A. F. CROSSMAN, P. CROWLEY, R. A. CROWLEY, W. E. DE WINTON, H. E. DRESSER, A. H. EVANS, E. N. F. FENWICK, E. HARTERT, Col. PAGET W. L'ESTRANGE, H. C. MONRO, H. MUNT, R. NESHAM, H. J. PEARSON, F. PENROSE, M.D., E. LORT PHILLIPS, W. P. PYCRAFT, H. SAUNDERS (*Treasurer*), Major H. A. TERRY, N. F. TICEHURST, W. F. URWICK, L. A. WILLIAMS, H. F. WITHERBY.

Visitors : J. CYRIL CROWLEY, F. CURTIS, C. E. FAGAN, — GREENSTOCK, PERCY L'ESTRANGE, ARNOLD MATHEWS, F. E. MUGFORD, H. STEVENS, L. WIGLESWORTH.

Mr. ERNST HARTERT characterized three new species of birds from the Louisiade Archipelago. He said that this group of islands, situated to the south-east of New Guinea, had been visited by Macgillivray during the voyage of H.M.S. 'Rattlesnake,' when a few birds had then been collected, and that more recently Canon Tristram and Mr. De Vis had described a few new forms from various islands of the group, but no large collections of birds had ever been made there. Mr. Albert S. Meek had recently stayed on various islands

[December 31st, 1898.]

of the group and collected a great number of birds for Mr. Rothschild's Museum. His collections showed that the proportion of species and subspecies peculiar to this group of islands was rather large, and that the various islands were inhabited by different forms. A few new species had already been described at former meetings of this Club, but exhaustive articles would soon appear on the collections in the 'Novitates Zoologicae,' and were partly in the press. Examples of the following new species were exhibited :—

EDOLIOSOMA ROSTRATUM, sp. n.

♂ *ad.* Bluish slate-colour; ear-coverts darker, almost black; lores, chin, and line at gape black. Wings black, inner webs very broadly white, outer webs bordered with the colour of the back, but lighter. Central rectrices slaty-grey like the back, black along the shaft, broadly tipped with black; the other rectrices black with narrow grey tips, the outermost pair broadly tipped with grey. Bill very large and strongly hooked. Wing 135, tail 115, culmen from base 43-44, bill from nostril to tip 20·5-21 mm.

♀ *ad.* Above greyish brown, the crown bluish ash; a narrow pale rufous superciliary line. Broad stripe behind eye and lores blackish grey; ear-coverts pale rusty brown, with dark greyish stripes. Remiges blackish, outer webs narrowly, inner webs broadly, bordered with pale cinnamon. Central rectrices pale greyish brown, narrowly tipped with pale cinnamon; the rest blackish brown, broadly tipped with cinnamon. Underside pale cinnamon, the sides of neck and breast more or less barred with black.

Hab. Rossel Island.

MYZOMELA ALBIGULA, sp. n.

♂ *ad.* Above dark greyish black, the head and upper tail-coverts with slightly paler edges to the feathers. Tail blackish brown. Remiges blackish brown, outwardly narrowly edged with dusty grey; inner webs with broad pale ashy-white borders. Chin and throat pale brownish grey, with a short, more or less indistinct, dark red line on the lower margin. Chest dark ashy brown; remainder of

underparts a little paler ashy brown, most of the feathers with slightly paler edges, thus producing a faintly streaked appearance. Under wing-coverts whitish grey. Bill, legs, and feet black. Wing 75, tail 58, culmen from forehead 23·5, tarsus 20 mm.

♀ *ad.* Smaller and paler, the abdomen almost whitish; throat whitish, in sharp contrast to the dark chest. Wing 68, tail 53, culmen 21 mm.

Hab. Rossel Island.

MYZOMELLA PALLIDIOR, sp. n.

Both sexes alike in coloration and somewhat resembling the female of *M. albigula*, but above slightly more brownish; below lighter, the breast not much darker than the abdomen, the whitish throat not sharply in contrast with the chest. The red streak on the throat is distinct in the male, but not in the female; fore-neck with an ill-defined blackish spot just below the pale throat. ♂, wing 73; ♀, wing 67 mm.

Hab. St. Aignan Island.

The Hon. WALTER ROTHSCHILD sent the description of a new subspecies of Cassowary as follows:—

CASUARIUS CASUARIUS INTENSUS, subsp. n.

♂ *ad.* The casque differs from that of *C. casuarius* in being very high and much more erect, the wattles almost entirely blue instead of dark red; the blue of the head and neck uniform and very dark; the orange of the hind-neck much restricted and separated at the upper end from the blue by a black crescent-shaped patch; naked sides of lower neck entirely uniform blue instead of red, bordered anteriorly with blue.

Hab. Unknown.

Mr. Rothschild further sent the description of a new Cormorant:—

PHALACROCORAX TRAVERSI, sp. n.

Adult. No crest; crown, back of neck, and upper parts greenish steel-blue, much duller than in *P. onslowi*, and not

showing a dorsal white patch; white alar bar broad and well-defined; tail-feathers black and twelve in number; throat and all under surface white; middle under tail-coverts black; feet reddish orange in skin. Nasal caruncles well-developed.

This species is exactly intermediate between *P. atriceps* and *P. verrucosus* in the disposal of the black and white on the sides of the head and neck. In *P. atriceps* the ear is situated in the middle of the white area, while in *P. verrucosus* the ear is in the middle of the black area. In the new species the ear is exactly on the border, half in the white and half in the black area.

Wing 305 to 310, tail 145, culmen 65, tarsus 65, outer toe and claw 110 mm.

Hab. Macquarie Islands. Sent by Mr. Henry Travers.

A note was read from Dr. BOWDLER SHARPE calling attention to the differences exhibited by the Robin-Flycatcher (*Petræca leggii*) from Southern and Western Australia. The examples from the latter country seemed to be distinct, and Dr. Sharpe proposed for them the name of

PETRÆCA CAMPBELLI, sp. n.

Similis *P. leggii*, sed fasciâ frontali albâ minore, et albedine alarum magis restrictâ.

Hab. W. Australia.

Mr. F. J. JACKSON sent for exhibition specimens of two apparently new species from Nandi in Equatorial Africa, for which he proposed the names of

PHOLIDAUGES SHARPII, sp. n.

P. purpurascens-niger: speculo alari albo nullo: gutture albicante, præpectore et corpore reliquo subtus dilutè cervinis: subcaudalibus quoque cervinis: subalaribus et axillaribus nigris. Long. tot. 72 poll., culm. 0.55, alæ 4.15, caudæ 2.6, tarsi 0.85.

PARUS NIGRICINEREUS, sp. n.

♂. Similis *P. funereo*, Verr., sed tectricibus alarum albido minutè apicatis: capitis plumis schistaceo marginatis:

gutturæ toto schistaceo-plumbeo, haud nigro, distinguendus. Long. tot. 5·5 poll., culm. 0·5, alæ 3·2, caudæ 2·2, tarsi 0·9.

♀. *Clarius schistaceo-plumbea*: gastræo toto schistaceo.

Mr. E. Lort Phillips described two new species of birds from Somaliland :—

CAPRIMULGUS TORRIDUS, sp. n.

C. similis C. nubico et *C. fervido*, sed maculis notæi rufis magnis conspicuis et alis rufescentibus distinguendus. Long. tot. 8·0 poll., culm. 0·55, alæ 6·0, caudæ 4·0, tarsi 0·7.

Hab. Eyk, on the Howd plateau, Somaliland (*J. Bennett Stanford*).

Distinguished from *C. nubicus* (which it resembles in having the white spot on the inner web of the first primary reaching to the shaft) by its much more rufous colour, the back and wings being spangled with large rufous spots at the end of the feathers. The first four primaries and the two outer tail-feathers have large white spots.

The specimen has been shown to Dr. Reichenow, Mr. Oscar Neumann, and Mr. Hartert, who all agree that it was undescribed.

GRANATINA HAWKERI, sp. n.

Similis G. ianthinogastri, sed ubique pallidior: pileo et interseapulo cinnamomeo-rufis: dorso rufescenti-brunneo: faciei colore ianthino minus extenso, et fasciâ angustâ frontali haud continuâ distinguenda. Long. tot. 4·8 poll., culm. 0·4, alæ 2·2, caudæ 2·4, tarsi 0·65.

Hab. Bari (*E. L. P.*), Dabuloc (*R. M. Hawker*), Lahello (*G. V. A. Peel*).

The light cinnamon colour of the head and mantle distinguishes the Somali form of the Hyacinth-bellied Weaver-Finch from the true *G. ianthinogaster* of Masailand, which has the back dark brown, contrasting with the chestnut head. The same light cinnamon colour pervades the throat and neck, and the blue on the face is not so extended.

The narrow frontal line of blue does not continue across the base of the forehead.

Mr. LORT PHILLIPS also exhibited the nest of *Eurocephalus rueppelli*, described by him in the 'Ibis' for 1898 (p. 406).

Dr. BOWDLER SHARPE sent the first sheets of a new 'Handlist of Birds,' of which the first volume would shortly be published by the Trustees of the British Museum. In its preparation Dr. Sharpe had already been engaged for the last five years, and he ventured to hope that ornithologists of every country would give him their assistance in endeavouring to make the new 'Handlist' as complete as possible. An attempt would be made in this new edition to incorporate all the fossil birds in their systematic places.

Mr. SCLATER exhibited a skin of a Tanager (*Calliste pretiosa*) which had been obtained by Mr. A. H. Holland at his residence, Estancia Sta. Elena, in the Argentine Republic, on November 15th, 1897. It appeared to be in full adult plumage, and was labelled "♂. Bill, legs, and iris black."

Mr. Sclater remarked that this was the first occurrence of this species in the Argentine Republic, it having been previously known only from Paraguay and South Brazil (see Sclater, Cat. Birds B. M. xi. p. 114).

Mr. PHILIP CROWLEY exhibited some photographs of the nests and eggs of British Birds.

Mr. BIDWELL proposed to bring before the Club, at its Meeting in February, some examples of abnormal nests of British Birds.

The next Meeting of the Club will be held on Wednesday, the 18th of January, 1899, at 8.30, at the Restaurant Frascati, 32 Oxford Street; the Dinner at 7 P.M.

(Signed)

P. L. SCLATER,	R. BOWDLER SHARPE,	HOWARD SAUNDERS,
Chairman.	Editor.	Sec. & Treas.

BULLETIN

OF THE

BRITISH ORNITHOLOGISTS' CLUB.

No. LIX.

THE fifty-eighth Meeting of the Club was held at the Restaurant Frascati, 32 Oxford Street, on Wednesday, the 18th of January, 1899.

Chairman : P. L. SCLATER, F.R.S.

Members present :—G. E. H. BARRETT-HAMILTON, E. BIDWELL, W. E. DE WINTON, H. E. DRESSER, Dr. F. D. DREWITT, A. H. EVANS, E. N. F. FENWICK, E. HARTERT, J. G. MILLAIS, H. MUNT, E. NEALE, R. NESHAM, E. W. OATES, H. J. PEARSON, F. PENROSE, M.D., W. P. PYCRAFT, H. SAUNDERS (*Treasurer*), Dr. R. BOWDLER SHARPE (*Editor*), Rev. H. H. SLATER, F. W. STYAN, W. B. TEGETMEIER, N. F. TICEHURST, WATKIN WATKINS, JOHNSON WILKINSON, H. F. WITHERBY.

Visitor : EDGAR WILLIAMSON.

Dr. BOWDLER SHARPE laid on the table a copy of a MS. "Index" to the generic names employed in the 'Catalogue of Birds,' which had been prepared by Mr. F. H. Waterhouse and presented by Dr. Sclater to the Natural History Museum for the use of students in the Bird-room of that institution. The Committee had agreed that this work should be published as an extra volume of the 'Bulletin' of the B. O. C.

Dr. SHARPE exhibited a specimen of a Petrel of the genus *Œstrelata* which had been forwarded to him by Dr. J. von

[January 30th, 1899.]

Madarász, of the Hungarian National Museum at Budapest. This was the specimen which had been determined as *Æ. hesitata* (cf. Eagle Clarke, Ibis, 1884, p. 202), and as such had been recorded in many ornithological works as the single instance of the occurrence of the species in Hungary. Dr. Sharpe identified the specimen as *Æ. incerta* (Schl.).

Mr. F. W. STYAN described three new species of Chinese birds, as follows:—

PYCTORHIS GRACILIS, sp. n.

Similis *P. altirostri*, sed minor: sordidè fulvescenti-brunnea, pileo vix rufescentiore: caudâ cinnamomeâ: facie laterali brunneâ, regione paroticâ angustè albido striolatâ: supercilio griseo vix evidente: gulâ et gastræo medio albis: pectore et hypochondriis cervino lavatis: crisso, tibiis et subcaudalibus rufescentioribus. Long. tot. 6·0 poll., culmen 0·4, alæ 2·0, caudæ 2·8, tarsi 0·9.

Hab. Lungan, N.W. Sechuan (10,000 feet).

PROPARRUS FUCATUS, sp. n.

Similis *P. cinereicipiti*, sed lætius coloratus: capite brunneo, dorso castaneo, uropygio lætè rufo, hypochondriis et subcaudalibus lætè rufescentibus distinguendus. Culmen 0·3 poll., alæ 2·2, caudæ 2·2, tarsi 0·9.

Hab. Ichang, W. Hupih.

SCHÆNIPARUS VARIEGATUS, sp. n.

Similis *S. dubio*, sed minus rufescens, pileo minus rufescente: corporis lateribus olivascetioribus, rostro nigro distinguendus. Long. tot. 6·0 poll., culmen 0·55, alæ 2·3, caudæ 2·8, tarsi 0·95.

Hab. Suiyang, Kweichow.

Mr. STYAN also exhibited some other rare species of birds from the north-west frontier of China, among them *Sitta przewalskii*, *Acredula fuliginosa*, &c.

The Hon. WALTER ROTHSCHILD sent for exhibition the nest and egg of a Bird of Paradise, *Cnemophilus macgregori*, De Vis, which was found by native collectors on Mount Knutsford (alt. 11,000 feet), in British New Guinea. The

nest was a well-built structure about 90 mm. high, 150–180 mm. wide, and with an inside cup of from 75 to 85 mm. diameter and a depth of about 53 mm. in the middle. The walls of the nest consisted chiefly of green moss, interwoven with ferns and rootlets, and it was lined with skeletonized leaves and some feathers of *Casuarinus*. The single egg—unfortunately damaged—had a very fine shell, was elongato-ovate in shape, white, with an irregular ring of brownish-black spots near the larger end and a few such spots all over, and with some underlying grey patches. It measured about 31·5 mm. in length and 20 mm. in breadth.

This contribution was further illustrated by the exhibition of a pair of adult birds of *Cnemophilus macgregori* and two young birds of the same species.

The Hon. WALTER ROTHSCHILD also sent the following description of a new subspecies of Cassowary:—

CASUARIUS CASUARIUS VIOLICOLLIS, subsp. n.

This apparently undescribed form of Cassowary was most nearly allied to *Casuarinus casuarinus salvadorii*, but differed conspicuously in the colour of the naked parts and in the very large size, which fully equalled that of *C. casuarinus australis*.

Bill much longer and straighter than in any other species of Cassowary. Casque horny brown, green at base. Face and a broad band running down the side of the bill bluish green. Base of lower mandible dark blue, with a yellow line running along one-third of the length of the mandible on each side. Wattles at base of fore-neck very large, round, and short, $3 \times 2\frac{1}{4}$ inches, pale blue at base, otherwise pink all over, entirely separate for their whole length, but close together. Auricular orifice larger than in any other Cassowary. Throat and fore-neck bright ultramarine-blue. Occiput and upper hind-neck pale greenish or eau-de-Nil blue. Lower hind-neck brilliant orange-scarlet. Naked lower sides of neck magenta-purple, bordered

anteriorly with ultramarine-blue, posteriorly with orange-scarlet; the magenta-purple space deeply carunculated and sharply cut off from the red and blue borders, which are plain and smooth.

Hab. Aru Islands, ?Trangan Island. (Spec. in vivario Rothschildiano.)

Mr. W. B. TEGETMEIER exhibited a very fine specimen of a hybrid Pheasant, *Phasianus reevesi* ♀ × *Phasianus colchicus* ♂.

The next Meeting of the Club will be held on Wednesday, the 15th of February, 1899, at 8.30, at the Restaurant Frascati, 32 Oxford Street; the dinner at 7 P.M.

(Signed)

P. L. SCLATER,	R. BOWDLER SHARPE,	HOWARD SAUNDERS,
<i>Chairman.</i>	<i>Editor.</i>	<i>Sec. & Treas.</i>

Notice.—Mr. BIDWELL proposes to exhibit at the next meeting of the Club a series of curious or abnormal nests of British Birds. Any Member who can contribute specimens to this exhibition is requested to communicate with Mr. E. Bidwell, 1 Trig Lane, Upper Thames Street, E.C.

BULLETIN

OF THE

BRITISH ORNITHOLOGISTS' CLUB.

No. LX.

THE fifty-ninth Meeting of the Club was held at the Restaurant Frascati, 32 Oxford Street, on Wednesday, the 15th of February, 1899.

Chairman : P. L. SCLATER, F.R.S.

Members present :—E. BIDWELL, Major A. H. COWIE, R.E., A. F. CROSSMAN, P. CROWLEY, R. A. CROWLEY, W. E. DE WINTON, H. E. DRESSER, Dr. F. D. DREWITT, A. H. EVANS, JOHN GERRARD, E. HARTERT, W. H. HUDSON, Col. PAGET W. L'ESTRANGE, G. E. LODGE, Rev. H. A. MACPHERSON, J. G. MILLAIS, H. C. MONRO, E. NEALE, R. NESHAM, HEATLEY NOBLE, E. W. OATES, C. E. PEARSON, H. J. PEARSON, F. PENROSE, M.D., T. DIGBY PIGOTT, C.B., H. L. POPHAM, R. H. READ, H. SAUNDERS (*Treasurer*), Dr. R. BOWDLER SHARPE (*Editor*), Capt. G. E. SHELLEY, F. W. STYAN, Major H. A. TERRY, N. F. TICEHURST, H. M. WALLIS, W. WATKINS, J. WILKINSON, H. F. WITHERBY.

Visitors : H. TABOR BROOKS, A. G. COWIE, F. CURTIS, G. EVANS, C. E. FAGAN, W. MIDDLEMOST, F. C. SELOUS, J. W. SKIPWORTH, A. F. R. WOLLASTON.

Mr. HOWARD SAUNDERS exhibited a specimen of a Levantine Shearwater (*Puffinus yelkouanus*) which had been shot by a wildfowler near Scarborough on the 5th of this

[February 27th, 1899.]

month. The bird was a male, and had been sent in the flesh to the British Museum for determination.

Mr. H. J. PEARSON exhibited, on behalf of Mr. W. Eagle Clarke, a female Grey Phalarope (*Crymophilus fulicarius*) in full breeding-plumage. This specimen had been procured by Mr. W. S. Bruce on Kostin Point, at the southern extremity of Meshdoshapsk Island, off the south coast of Novaya Zemlya, on the 19th of June, 1898. It was one of a pair, which Mr. Bruce was convinced were breeding on the island. This was the first record of the species in any part of Novaya Zemlya.

Mr. E. BIDWELL exhibited a bird's-nesting stick, which had been found to be of great utility in his expeditions along with Mr. H. J. Pearson, who also testified to the excellent results obtained by the invention.

The Rev. H. A. MACPHERSON exhibited a nestling Duck, which was the offspring of a female *Anas boschas* and a male *Dafla acuta*.

The Hon. WALTER ROTHSCHILD sent for exhibition the type of a new Thrush, which he described as follows:—

GEOCICHLA DUMASI, sp. n.

This fine new species has been obtained on the Island of Buru by Mr. Dumas, a companion of the late Mr. A. H. Everett, and is perhaps nearest to *G. dohertyi*, from the Lesser Sunda Islands, but is quite distinct.

♂ *ad.* Whole upper surface bright olive-rufous brown, with two tufts of creamy white feathers, one on each side of the rump. Lesser upper wing-coverts like the back; greater upper wing-coverts black, with two rows of large round white spots. Remiges blackish brown; the outer webs of the primaries with narrow, those of the secondaries with broad, olive-rufous borders. All wing-feathers, except the outer three, with large white patches near the base of the inner webs. Tail like the back, but darker. Whole throat and

chest black; abdomen white; flanks olive-yellowish brown, some feathers on the side of the breast olive with black tips, as well as some of the white breast-feathers, thus forming a broken irregular band across the breast. Under tail-coverts creamy white. Under wing-coverts mixed black and white. Iris dark brown; bill black; feet light. Culmen 23, wing 94, tail 68, tarsus 32 mm.

Hab. Mt. Mada, Buru (3000 feet), August 1898.

Mr. ERNST HARTERT exhibited specimens of six new species of birds from Buru. They had been collected by Mr. Dumas, who had accompanied the late Mr. A. H. Everett during his last expeditions. Mr. Hartert pointed out that some of the forms were of great zoo-geographical interest. The entire collection would be fully discussed in 'Novitates Zoologicae.'

The new forms were described as follows:—

ACANTHOPNEUSTE EVERETTI, sp. n.

♂ *ad.* Top of head greyish brown; superciliary line pale grey, not very conspicuous. Rest of upperside dark olive-green. Tail and wings blackish brown, edged with the colour of the back. Throat dirty white; remainder of under surface bright sulphur-yellow; sides of breast and body washed with greenish olive. Wing 59, tail 42, tarsus 22, culmen 13 mm.

♀ *ad.* Like the male, but a little smaller.

Juv. Throat like the rest of the under surface.

Hab. Mt. Mada, Buru.

PHYLLERGATES EVERETTI DUMASI, subsp. n.

Differs from typical *Phyllergates everetti* of Flores in being slightly more brownish on the nape, and less greenish, more rufous-olive on the back, and in having no indication of white on the outer rectrix.

Hab. Mt. Mada, Buru.

ERYTHROMYIAS BURUENSIS, sp. n.

♂ *ad.* Top and sides of head slate-colour; upper wing-

coverts brownish slaty; remainder of the upper surface ashy brown. Rectrices and remiges ashy brown, with lighter brown outer edges; quills quite pale on the edges of the inner webs. Chin, throat, chest, and sides of body cinnamon-rufous; flanks washed with brown; middle of abdomen white; under tail-coverts buffy white. Iris olive; feet brown; bill black. Wing 69-70, tail 52, tarsus 21, culmen 16 mm.

♀ *ad.* Like the male, but smaller. Wing 63-64 mm.

Hab. Mt. Mada, Buru (3000 feet).

RHIPIDURA SUPERFLUA, sp. n.

♂ *ad.* Top and sides of head light brown; a line from base of bill to above the eyes brownish buff. Hind-neck and uppermost part of back like the head; remainder of upper parts bright cinnamon-rufous. Remiges brownish black, the inner edges of all whitish buff; outer edges of secondaries bright rufous. Rectrices blackish brown, the base and outer edges of basal part dark cinnamon-rufous; all, including the central pair, broadly tipped with cinnamon, darker on the middle ones. Throat white, with a black patch across the crop; remainder of under surface rufous-buff, the sides washed with brown; under tail-coverts and thighs cinnamon. Wing 68, tail 80, tarsus 18, culmen 13 mm.

♀ smaller, wing about 62 mm.

Hab. Mt. Mada, Buru (3000 feet).

PACHYCEPHALA MELANURA BURUENSIS, subsp. n.

The Thickhead, with golden-yellow under surface in the male, from Buru, has hitherto been considered the same as *P. clio* from the Sula Islands, but it differs considerably from the latter species in being of a much deeper dark greenish-olive colour on the upperside and in having all the upper wing-coverts pure black with narrow olive edges. The golden-yellow collar on the back of the neck is unbroken, the pectoral pure black collar being very wide and broadly united with the black sides of the head. The remiges are edged with the colour of the back; the tail black. The female differs also

from that of *P. clio* of the Sula Islands in the colour of the under surface, which is pale buffish brown, lighter in the middle of the abdomen, darker and browner on the chest, and becoming more greyish on the throat. Under tail-coverts buffy yellow. The young male is more rufous below and darker on the back than the female, which is olive-brown above. ♂ *ad.* Wing 93, tail 73, culmen 18-19 mm.

♀ *ad.* Wing 89 mm.

Hab. Buru.

I consider all these yellow Thickheads to be geographical representatives of one species.

COLUMBA MADA, sp. n.

♂. Bill yellow, red at base. Top of head and neck pure grey, merging into the colour of the rest of the upper surface, which is slate-colour with light grey borders to the feathers. Rectrices deep slaty brown, with narrow pale brownish tips. Bare skin round eyes red. Sides of head, throat, chest, and breast buff, palest on the throat. Abdomen brownish vinaceous; under tail-coverts cinnamon. Feet and iris red. Wing 229, tail 170, exposed portion of culmen 16 mm.

♀. Like the male, but slightly smaller.

Hab. Mt. Mada, Buru.

Mr. HARTERT also exhibited a new Thickhead, and characterized it as follows:—

PACHYCEPHALA PENINSULÆ, sp. n.

♂. Top of the head ashy brown; remainder of upper surface, including tail, olive-green. Remiges blackish; inner webs with whitish borders; outer webs edged with greenish olive. Lores ashy; an indistinct pale buffy eyebrow. Sides of head ashy brown. Throat white. Breast light yellowish grey, with darker shaft-lines; abdomen pale sulphur-yellow, with dark shaft-stripes. Under wing-coverts white, with a faint yellow tinge, those towards the bend of the wing brownish, with a yellow tinge. Iris brown; feet light bluish slate. Bill brown. Wing 78-79, tail 63, culmen 16.5, tarsus 20 mm.

Juv. Head pale brown, not ashy.

Hab. Cape York, N.E. Australia.

This form is very closely allied to and possibly only a subspecies of *P. griseiceps*.

Mr. E. HARTERT also made some remarks on the Crested Larks (*Galeridæ*), and observed that there were some of his friends who had expressed to him their disbelief in the many sub-species of *Galerida cristata* recognized in an article in 'Novitates Zoologicæ' about two years ago; but he could assure the sceptics that there were many more forms yet to be discriminated, and that he would shortly describe some more races, examples of which he had recently received. The explanation of the great local variation of *G. cristata* lay entirely in their having absolutely limited areas of distribution. It was possible that one or two of the forms recognized in the above-mentioned article would not stand as good sub-species, but the majority were very distinct, and many more might yet be discovered. There was, however, one mistake in his memoir which he admitted. He had enumerated *Galerida theklæ* as one of the sub-species of *G. cristata*, but he found now that the secondaries, in the adult bird, were so much shorter than in *G. cristata*, and the first (spurious) primary was comparatively so much longer, that it would be necessary to follow Dr. Sharpe in recognizing *G. theklæ* as a distinct species, especially since recent observations had shown that forms of *G. cristata* and *G. theklæ* breed in the same area, while Mr. Hartert formerly supposed that they inhabited different parts of the country. The specific difference of *G. theklæ* had been insisted on by Brehm and Sharpe, and recently again (*in litteris*) by Kleinschmidt, but nobody had ever pointed out the most important characters. There were other features besides, in the form and size of bill and in the colour. *Galerida malabarica* would also have to stand as a species, being after all very different from *G. cristata*. Mr. Hartert hoped to return to the interesting subject of the Crested Larks on a future occasion. He considered that his investigations had, in fact, only just commenced.

Captain G. E. SHELLEY communicated the descriptions of four new species of birds from Nyasa Land :—

MELANOBUCCO MACCLOUNII, sp. n.

Similar to *M. leuillanti*, but with the back of the head and neck black; a large bare patch round the eye, the posterior half of which is surrounded by the white of the entire sides and front of the neck, this also extending over the sides of the back. Total length 7·2 inches, culmen 0·8, wing 3·4, tail 2·6, tarsus 0·85.

CISTICOLA ALTICOLA, sp. n.

Allied to *C. angusticauda*, Reichen., from Uniamwesi, and with the back of neck, back, and wing-coverts uniform ashy grey; quills and tail brown, the latter with white ends, but without dark sub-terminal marks on the feathers, and the underparts white shaded with grey on the flanks. It is distinguished by having the entire ear-coverts, and head above the line of the gape, uniform deep rufous brown. Total length 5·6 inches, culmen 0·5, wing 2·25, tail 2·7, tarsus 0·8.

MALACONOTUS MANNINGI, sp. n.

Nearly allied to *Laniarius melamprosopus*, Reichen., but readily distinguished by the uniform deep grey colouring of the crown, back of neck, and upper back, and the almost entire absence of yellow tips to any of the wing-feathers. Total length 7·5 inches, culmen 0·6, wing 3·7, tail 3·6, tarsus 1·0.

MUSCICAPA NYIKENSIS, sp. n.

Similar to *M. lugens*, with the bill entirely black, but characterized by its large size and by having a narrow white forehead; the space in front of the eyes and the cheeks also white, like the throat. Total length 6·6 inches, culmen 0·5, wing 3·3, tail 3·1, tarsus 0·9.

Hab. Nyika Plateau, 6000 to 7000 feet (*Alexander Whyte*).

Mr. F. CURTIS exhibited a specimen of the Spotted Sand-piper (*Tringoides macularius*), which had been shot on the 2nd of February, at Finea, Co. Longford, Ireland, by

Mr. Frank Roberts. The bird, which proved to be a female, was very tame, and was feeding at the time in a meadow much trodden by cattle by the side of the river Finea, within a short distance of the village.

Mr. J. G. MILLAIS exhibited a remarkable hybrid between a male Red Grouse (*Lagopus scoticus*) and a female Bantam Fowl.

Mr. W. EAGLE CLARKE sent a communication, as follows:— A Bustard was obtained at St. Fergus, on the Pitfour estate, Aberdeenshire, on the 24th of October last, and Mr. J. G. Walker, who shot and owns the specimen, has recently submitted it to me for identification. I found it, as Mr. Walker suspected, to be an example of the Asiatic *Houbara macqueeni*, and a female in immature plumage. This is the fourth British and the first Scottish specimen, and it is the only female that has wandered as far west as Great Britain. The bird was unfortunately recorded by Mr. Walker as a "Little" Bustard in the 'Annals of Scottish Natural History' for January (p. 51). A similar fate befell the first English specimen (Zool. [1848] p. 1969).

Mr. E. BIDWELL exhibited a series of nests of British birds built of abnormal materials. The following gentlemen were the contributors to this very interesting exhibition:—

Mr. P. CROWLEY.

Nest of the Chaffinch (*Fringilla cœlebs*), partly covered with scraps of printed paper.

Mr. A. HOLTE MACPHERSON.

Spotted Flycatcher (*Muscicapa grisola*). Nest composed of old wax vestas, cigarette-papers, &c. Taken near Hyde Park Corner, 1898.

Mr. J. GERRARD.

Common Wren (*Anorthura troglodytes*). Nest with open top, built under a bank. From the Shetland Islands.

Mr. H. NOBLE.

Madeiran Swift (*Apus unicolor*). Nest with tobacco-paper and feathers worked into the lining. From El Ancon, Teneriffe.

Mr. R. H. READ.

Two nests of the Pied Flycatcher (*Ficedula atricapilla*), and two of the Arctic Tern (*Sterna macrura*).

A nest of the Pied Wagtail (*Motacilla lugubris*), built in a Blackbird's nest, and one of the Redbreast (*Eri-thacus rubecula*), with a Cuckoo's egg, built in an old Thrush's nest.

Mr. F. C. SELOUS.

Nest of the Chiffchaff (*Phylloscopus minor*), built without any lining of feathers.

Mr. E. BIDWELL.

Nest of the Nightingale (*Daulias luscini*a), lined with feathers. From Redhill.

Nest of the Sedge-Warbler (*Acrocephalus phragmitis*), lined with feathers. From Walton-on-Thames.

Nest of the Hedge-Sparrow (*Tharrhaleus modularis*), made of sticks and lined with feathers.

Nest of the Chiffchaff (*Phylloscopus minor*), built without feather-lining. From the Lizard, Cornwall.

Nest of the Penduline Titmouse (*Remiza pendulina*). From S. Europe.

Nest of the Chaffinch (*Fringilla cœlebs*), partly covered with scraps of wall-paper.

Nest of the Woodchat (*Enneoctonus pomeanus*), built with flowers. From Malaga.

Nest of the Icterine Warbler (*Hypolais hypolais*), built with feathers. Taken within the Arctic Circle in Northern Norway.

Nest of the Moorhen (*Gallinula chloropus*), with the eggs concealed with paper. River Thames.

Mr. J. WHITAKER.

Nest of the Common Heron (*Ardea cinerea*), partly constructed of wire. From Stoke, Notts.

On the motion of the CHAIRMAN, a hearty vote of thanks was given to Mr. Bidwell for the very interesting exhibition he had prepared.

The next Meeting of the Club will be held on Wednesday, the 15th of March, 1899, at 8.30, at the Restaurant Frascati, 32 Oxford Street; the Dinner at 7 P.M.

(Signed)

P. L. SCLATER,	R. BOWDLER SHARPE,	HOWARD SAUNDERS,
<i>Chairman.</i>	<i>Editor.</i>	<i>Sec. & Treas.</i>

BULLETIN

OF THE

BRITISH ORNITHOLOGISTS' CLUB.

No. LXI.

THE sixtieth Meeting of the Club was held at the Restaurant Frascati, 32 Oxford Street, on Wednesday, the 15th of March, 1899.

Chairman: P. L. SCLATER, F.R.S.

Members present:—E. BIDWELL, F. E. BLAAUW, A. F. CROSSMAN, W. E. DE WINTON, Dr. F. D. DREWITT, A. H. EVANS, J. GERRARD, W. H. HUDSON, J. MCLEAN MARSHALL, E. G. B. MEADE-WALDO, H. C. MONRO, R. L. PATTERSON, C. E. PEARSON, H. J. PEARSON, F. PENROSE, M.D., T. DIGBY PIGOTT, C.B., W. P. PYCRAFT, H. SAUNDERS (*Treasurer*), Capt. G. E. SHELLEY, N. F. TICEHURST, Major H. TERRY, W. F. URWICK, C. WHYMPER.

Visitor: J. A. BROOKE.

Dr. BOWDLER SHARPE sent for exhibition a specimen of an Owl from São Paulo, Brazil, which he was at first inclined to refer to a new genus, but which he found, somewhat to his surprise, to be a *Gisella*, allied to *G. harrisi* of Colombia. The specimen in question had been sent to him by Dr. von Ihering for identification, along with other species.

The position of the genus *Gisella*, according to Mr. Pycraft's recent classification of the Owls, is not with *Syrnium*, as Dr. Sharpe had placed it in 1875, but nearer to *Nyctala*, as had been proposed by Messrs. Sclater and Salvin in the 'Nomenclator' (p. 116). In plumage the species of *Gisella* are not unlike *Nyctala*, but the two genera are evidently distinct; the asymmetry of the ear-openings, a

[March 30th, 1899.]

feature in both, differs in character. The shape of the long aperture is not quite the same in *Gisella* and *Nyctala*; the aperture which is *left* in the ear of *Nyctala* corresponds to that of the *right* in *Gisella*, and *vice versa*. The form of the spinal tract, as far as could be judged from the skin, was similar in the two genera, according to Mr. Pycraft, who has figured that of *Nyctala* in the 'Transactions of the Linnean Society,' (2) vii. pl. 26. fig. 1.

Dr. Sharpe believed that the São Paulo bird was different from *G. harrisi* of Colombia, and proposed for it the name of

GISELLA IHERINGI.

G. similis G. harrisi, sed supracaudalibus maculis ovatis albis ornatis, et caudæ fasciis albis tribus: fasciâ longitudinali auriculari, loris et fasciâ gulari nigerrimis, nec chocolatino-brunneis distinguenda. Long. tot. 9.0 poll., alæ 5.25, caudæ 2.9, tarsi 1.15.

Mr. DIGBY FIGOTT informed the meeting that a Magpie and a Jackdaw had together occupied and repaired an old Magpie's nest in St. James's Park, and that that morning the Jackdaw had been noticed inside the nest with the Magpie in close attendance. He asked whether any Member of the Club was aware of any previous instance of the birds pairing. He had been informed that something of the kind had occurred in Wales, but had heard no particulars.

Mr. W. P. PYCRAFT mentioned that he had recently received from Mr. Frank Finn a specimen of the Blue-throated Barbet (*Cyanops asiatica*) which showed a similar heel-pad to that found in the Wryneck (*Iynæ torquilla*). The specimen will be exhibited at the next meeting.

The next Meeting of the Club will be held on Wednesday, the 19th of April, 1899, at 8.30, at the Restaurant Frascati, 32 Oxford Street; the Dinner at 7 P.M.

(Signed)

P. L. SCLATER,	R. BOWDLER SHARPE,	HOWARD SAUNDERS,
Chairman.	Editor.	Sec. & Treas.

BULLETIN

OF THE

BRITISH ORNITHOLOGISTS' CLUB.

No. LXII.

THE sixty-first Meeting of the Club was held at the Restaurant Frascati, 32 Oxford Street, on Wednesday, the 19th of April, 1899.

Chairman: P. L. SCLATER, F.R.S.

Members present:—E. BIDWELL, A. F. CROSSMAN, P. CROWLEY, W. E. DE WINTON, Dr. F. D. DREWITT, Lt.-Col. W. H. M. DUTHIE, H. J. ELWES, F.R.S., W. R. OGILVIE GRANT, E. HARTERT, G. E. LODGE, H. C. MONRO, R. NESHAM, HEATLY NOBLE, F. PENROSE, Hon. L. W. ROTHSCHILD, M.P., Dr. R. BOWDLER SHARPE (*Editor*), E. CAVENDISH TAYLOR, N. F. TICEHURST, H. M. WALLIS, J. WILKINSON.

Visitors: T. F. ALTHAUS, C. E. FAGAN, J. R. HATFIELD, R. J. C. MOSTYN.

Mr. W. R. OGILVIE GRANT gave an account of his recent journey to Sokotra, and exhibited a series of specimens obtained by himself and Dr. H. O. Forbes. Among them were examples of the following new birds, full descriptions of which will appear in the 'Bulletin' of the Liverpool Museum:—*Scops socotranus*, *Caprimulgus jonesi*, *Motacilla forwoodi*, *Fringillaria insularis*, *F. socotrana*, *Passer hemileucus*, and *Phalacrocorax nigrogularis*.

[April 29th, 1899.]

The Hon. WALTER ROTHSCHILD exhibited a stuffed specimen of *Casuarus casuarus sclateri*, shot by Herr Emil Weiske on the Brown River, S.E. New Guinea.

This form had been originally described by Count Salvadori from a specimen which died in the Zoological Gardens about the year 1875. He had afterwards united the species with *Casuarus casuarus beccarii* (Sclater); but the latter was now known to be confined to Vokan Island, in the Aru group, while *C. c. sclateri* was found all over the south and south-east of New Guinea. The differences of the two forms had been given in 'Novitates Zoologicae,' vol. vi. no. 1, p. 75, and would be further detailed in the 'Monograph of the Cassowaries,' shortly to be published.

Mr. WALTER ROTHSCHILD also exhibited a series of skins of the *P. cinctus* group of the genus *Ptilinopus*, all the species being shown excepting the newly-described *P. alligator*, Collett, of which Mr. Rothschild exhibited a coloured figure. He recognized the following forms:—

P. cinctus. Hab. Timor.

P. albocinctus. Hab. Lombok, Sumbawa.

P. albocinctus baliensis. Hab. Bali.

P. everetti. Hab. Alor, Pantar.

P. lettiensis. Hab. Letti, Dammar, and Babber.

A fine specimen of the wonderful *P. dohertyi* was also brought for exhibition by Mr. Rothschild.

Mr. ROTHSCHILD further exhibited several skins of *Lophophorus refulgens*, and added the following remarks:—

"In 1893 (Bull. Soc. Zool. Fr. xviii. p. 19) Dr. Oustalet described two Monaul Pheasants as local forms of '*Lophophorus impeyanus*' under the names of *L. impeyanus* var. *mantoui* and *L. impeyanus* var. *obscurus*, the former having the copper-coloured neck and head replaced by bright blue, the other having all the metallic parts replaced by deep greenish black. I was at first inclined to consider *L. impeyanus* var. *mantoui* a good species; for I procured three skins, all exactly alike. My suspicions were first aroused by finding in a lot of 3000 ordinary Monaul skins

one specimen of *L. impeyanus* with a dull bronze-coloured neck, one *L. impeyanus mantoui*, and two semi-albino birds. My doubts as to these forms were settled on receiving a black Monaul killed by an English sportsman out of a flock of four, together with a cock and three hens of the ordinary Monaul. Mr. Grant, in vol. xxii. of the 'Catalogue of Birds,' says that *Lophophorus refulgens*, Temm., is the correct name for the Common Monaul; so I am obliged to record all the skins exhibited as varieties of *Lophophorus refulgens*."

Mr. HARTERT exhibited a specimen of *Geocichla peronii* and a nearly related new species of Thrush which he named

GEOCICHLA AUDACIS, sp. nov.

Similar to *G. peronii* of Timor, but with the upper surface more uniform and of a much deeper chestnut-rufous colour; chest and sides of body darker and more chestnut-rufous than in *G. peronii*; wing shorter, not more than 102-104 mm., while it is at least 110 in *G. peronii*. ♂ and ♀ not materially different.

Hab. Dammar Island, in the south of the Banda Sea. Collected by Heinrich Kühn.

Mr. HARTERT also showed a pair of *Erythrura forbesi* from Dammar. This species was hitherto only known from the type specimen in the British Museum, from the Tenimber Islands.

Mr. SCLATER stated that he had been staying in the Riviera during the past four weeks, and wished to call attention to the appalling deficiency of bird-life in that otherwise charming country. Although out every day on the hills round Cannes and Nice, and always on the look-out, he had seen but very few birds, and those mostly of the commonest sorts and always shy and timid. Even Sparrows were only occasionally to be met with. In the beautifully kept gardens of the villas not a bird's note was to be heard, and very rarely was a single Tit or Robin to be seen. Mr. Sclater attributed this scarcity of birds (which was deplorable, not

only from an æsthetic but still more from an economical point of view) to the prevalence of the “*chasse*” during the autumn and winter months and the sale of small birds of every sort for food in the markets; and expressed a hope that every Member of the B.O.U. would do all he could to shelter and protect bird-life in the country, lest we should fall into the same condition.

MR. ROTHSCHILD also made some remarks on the few birds recently observed by him near Bordighéra.

MR. SCLATER had, curiously enough, found in the bird-shop of Peracino, at Cannes, four examples of a bird which he had never seen alive before—the Masked Hawfinch (*Coccothraustes personatus*) of Japan—and had purchased them for the Zoological Society for a trifling sum. Mr. Sclater exhibited two of these birds in their cage to the meeting.

MR. E. BIDWELL exhibited a new field-glass, which he considered to be likely to prove of great service to ornithologists.

MR. HARTERT made some remarks on the system of labelling birds adopted in the Tring Museum, drawing particular attention to the red label which was used for the easy identification of typical specimens.

MR. H. J. ELWES made some very interesting remarks on birds observed by him during his expedition to the Altai Mountains, with especial reference to the boundary-lines of the Eastern and Western Palæarctic Region.

MR. L. W. WIGLESWORTH sent the following note to the meeting:—

“*Pachycephala chlorura*, Gray, of the New Hebrides, belongs to a group of *Pachycephalæ* in which the coloration of the sexes differs considerably, and the female was described as an *Eopsaltria* by Gray and named by him (B. Trop. Is.

1859. p. 21) *Eopsaltria cucullata*, from a single specimen in the British Museum obtained by Macgillivray in Aneiteum Island.

“A similar mistake by Verreaux & Des Murs has been pointed out by Dr. Oustalet (Bull. Soc. Philom. Paris, 1879, p. 219) in the case of *Eopsaltria caledonica* (Gm.) and *Pachycephala morariensis*, Verr. & Des M., of New Caledonia, the former name having been given to a female (or young male, which is very like the female), the latter name to the adult male. This species should therefore be called *Pachycephala caledonica* (Gm.). Both *Eopsaltria cucullata* and *Pachycephala morariensis* are erroneously allowed to rank as valid species by Dr. Gadow in the ‘Catalogue of Birds,’ viii. 1883, pp. 179, 199, and by Wigglesworth in ‘Aves Polynesiae,’ 1891, pp. 27, 29.”

Two photographs of the specimen of *Euplocomus andersoni*, Elliot (now in the Calcutta Museum), were sent for exhibition by Mr. FRANK FINN, who considered this example to be the type of the species.

The next Meeting of the Club will be held on Wednesday, the 17th of May, 1899, at 8.30, at the Restaurant Frascati, 32 Oxford Street; the Dinner at 7 P.M.

(Signed)

P. L. SCLATER,	R. BOWDLER SHARPE,	E. BIDWELL,
Chairman.	Editor.	Acting-Sec. & Treas.

BULLETIN

OF THE

BRITISH ORNITHOLOGISTS' CLUB.

No. LXIII.

THE sixty-second Meeting of the Club was held at the Restaurant Frascati, 32 Oxford Street, on Wednesday, the 17th of May, 1899.

Chairman : P. L. SCLATER, F.R.S.

Members present :—BOYD ALEXANDER, G. E. H. BARRETT-HAMILTON, E. BIDWELL (*Acting Treas. & Sec.*), J. L. BONHOTE, A. F. CROSSMAN, P. CROWLEY, G. E. LODGE, J. G. MILLAIS, H. C. MUNRO, E. NEALE, R. NESHAM, F. PENROSE, R. H. READ, E. LORT PHILLIPS, R. BOWDLER SHARPE (*Editor*), Dr. A. C. STARK, W. B. TEGETMEIER, N. F. TICEHURST, R. J. USSHER, L. A. WILLIAMS.

Visitors : G. EVANS, F. GILLETT, Major-Gen. H. B. HAYWARD, B. V. USSHER.

Mr. OGILVIE GRANT sent the description of a new species of Hill-Partridge, discovered by Mr. C. B. Rickett in the hills of Kuatun in Foh-kien. This species Mr. Grant proposed to call

ARBORICOLA RICKETTI, sp. n.

A. similis A. gingicæ, sed fronte et superciliis albis distinguenda. Long. tot. 10·5 poll., culm. 0·9, alæ 5·7, caudæ 2·1, tarsi 1·6.

Hab. Hachong and Yamakan, Foh-kien.

[May 31st, 1899.]

Mr. RICKETT sent the description of a new species of Trogon, obtained by him on the same expedition to Kuatun :—

HARPACTES YAMAKANENSIS, sp. n.

H. similis H. erythrocephalo, sed suprâ olivascentiori-brunneus, pileo quoque olivascenti-brunneo distinguendus. Long. tot. 13·3 poll., culm. 0·75, alæ 6·2, caudæ 6·8, tarsi 0·8.

Hab. Yamakan, Foh-kien.

Mr. BOYD ALEXANDER gave an account of his recent expedition to the Zambesi River and its tributaries. Amongst a number of specimens of interesting species obtained by him, the following were pointed out as some of the more remarkable :—*Chætura stictilæma*, *Erythropygia zambesiana*, *E. quadrivirgata*, *Cossypha natalensis*, *C. heuglini*, *Pinarornis plumosus*, *Nicator gularis*, *Dryoscopus sticturus*, *Erythrocerus francisci*, *Saxicola falkensteini*, *Campothera bennetti*, *Glaucidium capense*, *Macronyx wintoni*, *Glareola emini*, *Locustella fluviatilis*.

The following species were described by Mr. Alexander as new :—

SYLVIÉLLA PALLIDA, sp. n.

Most nearly allied to *Sylviella leucopsis*, Reichenow, the typical examples of which were obtained at Malinda. The British Museum possesses a male and female of the typical *S. leucopsis* from the neighbouring island of Manda, and I have compared my specimens with these. From *S. leucopsis* the Zambesi specimens differ in the following particulars :—The upper parts are uniform grey, *not* washed with greenish ; the bill is larger, and is *black*, not *brown*. Superciliary stripe, chin, throat, cheeks, and fore-neck, as well as the centre of the breast and belly, white, tinged with buff ; the sides and flanks more distinctly washed with the latter colour.

♂. Culmen 0·45 inch, wing 2·3, tail 1, tarsus 0·75.

♀. Wing 2·1 inches.

Hab. Zambesi River.

EREMOMELA HELENORÆ, sp. n.

Most nearly allied to *E. polioxantha*, but differs in the following particulars :—It is smaller ; the feathers of the

rump are olive-yellow, not ashy grey, washed with olive; the secondaries tipped with white; axillaries ashy white, not yellow; under tail-coverts white; feathers of thighs dusky, tipped with white. The tail is considerably shorter than in *E. polioxantha*. Upper mandible brown, lower one horn-colour; tarsus black; iris orange. Total length (measured in flesh) 3.56 inches, culmen 0.5, wing 2.1, tail 1.18, tarsus 0.6.

Hab. Mesanangue, Zambesi River.

CISTICOLA MUELLERI, sp. n.

Closely allied to *C. dodsoni*, Sharpe, but differs in the following particulars:—It is somewhat larger, and does not possess the broad sub-terminal band of black on the tail-feathers, as in *C. dodsoni*. The tail-feathers have no broad white tip, and, with the exception of the two centre ones, which are of a uniform brown, they possess a narrow dusky sub-terminal marking under certain lights on their inner webs only.

Adult female. Wing 1.82 inch, culmen 0.4, tail 1.6.

Named in memory of Mr. Müller, who commanded the rear-guard of Major Gibbons's Expedition, and who died at Tete.

Mr. ROBERT READ read some extracts from a letter received by him from Dr. Cuthbert Christy on some of the birds of the Upper Niger.

The Hon. WALTER ROTHSCHILD sent descriptions of two new sub-species of Cassowaries from examples living in the Zoological Garden at Berlin:—

CASUARIUS PICTICOLLIS HECKI, subsp. n.

This bird bears the same relationship to *C. picticollis* that *C. papuanus edwardsi* does to *C. papuanus*. The throat and hind-neck are deep indigo-blue. Occiput pale greenish blue. A small round black wattle on the fore-neck. Lower sides of neck dark crimson. Casque and plumage similar to those of *C. picticollis*.

Hab. German New Guinea.

This form is named in honour of Dr. Heck, Director of the Zoological Garden in Berlin.

CASUARIUS UNIAPPENDICULATUS AURANTIACUS, subsp. n.

Face, cheeks, and occiput pale sky-blue; throat dark blue. Occipital patch, fore-neck, hind-neck, and lower sides of the neck deep reddish orange. Casque horny green, and much more compressed laterally than in *C. uniappendiculatus*. Long cheek-wattles absent; but the sides of face distended, as in *C. philipi*.

Hab. German New Guinea.

Mr. J. L. BONHOTE exhibited some specimens of birds recently obtained by him in the Bahamas, amongst which were examples of *Pyrranga æstiva*, *Protonotaria citrea*, and *Vireo olivaceus*, not previously recorded from New Providence.

The following new species was described in a communication from Mr. F. J. JACKSON:—

PŒOPTERA GREYI, sp. n.

♂. Similis *P. lugubri*, sed caudâ minùs acuminatâ et alis nigris purpureo paullò micantibus, remigibus haud pallidè brunneo marginatis: corpore haud purpurascente et vix violaceo: gutture magis chalybeo. Long. tot. 8·0 poll., culm. 0·75, alæ 4·1, caudæ 3·25, tarsi 0·8.

♀. A mari differt more generis *Pœoptera*. Grisescenti-viridis, remigibus intùs castaneis. Long. tot. 7·8 poll., culm. 0·7, alæ 3·95, caudæ 3·2, tarsi 0·8.

Hab. Nandi, Equatorial Africa.

Mr. R. J. USSHER gave a most interesting exhibition of relics which he had discovered in the kitchen-middens on the coast of Waterford. In addition to the remains of red deer, oxen, domestic fowl, &c., the series of bones of the Great Auk (*Plautus impennis*) which were exhibited tended to prove that in former times the latter species must have bred in this part of Ireland.

Mr. SCLATER exhibited another series of beautiful photographs of Australian birds' nests and eggs, which had been transmitted to him by Mr. D. Le Souëf, of Melbourne. and

were partly intended to illustrate some notes of Mr. Le Souëf's to be published in the next number of 'The Ibis.' Amongst these, special attention was called to the photographs of the nest and eggs of the Northern Oriole (*Oriolus affinis*), the Black-faced Wood-Swallow (*Artamus melanops*), and the Northern Thickhead (*Pachycephala falcata*).

Mr. SCLATER exhibited a mounted specimen of a hybrid between a male Guinea-fowl and a domestic hen, which he had received alive as a present from Dr. Goeldi, of Pará (see P. Z. S. 1898, p. 348), and the anatomy of which would be described by Mr. Beddard in the next number of 'The Ibis.' Such hybrids were said to be not uncommon at Ceará in Brazil, whence the present specimen was obtained, and to be known by the name of "Tahý."

The next Meeting of the Club will be held on Wednesday, the 21st of June, 1899, at 8.30, at the Restaurant Frascati, 32 Oxford Street; the dinner at 7 P.M.

(Signed)

P. L. SCLATER,
Chairman.

R. BOWDLER SHARPE,
Editor.

E. BIDWELL,
Acting-Sec. & Treas.

BULLETIN

OF THE

BRITISH ORNITHOLOGISTS' CLUB.

No. LXIV.

THE sixty-third Meeting of the Club was held at the Restaurant Frascati, 32 Oxford Street, on Wednesday, the 21st of June, 1899.

Chairman: P. L. SCLATER, F.R.S.

Members present:—BOYD ALEXANDER, E. BIDWELL, J. L. BONHOTE, A. F. CROSSMAN, P. CROWLEY, R. A. CROWLEY, Dr. F. D. DREWITT, E. F. FENWICK, W. R. OGILVIE GRANT (*Acting Editor*), E. HARTERT, G. E. LODGE, E. NEALE, R. NESHAM, F. PENROSE, M.D., Hon. W. ROTHSCHILD, M.P., H. SAUNDERS (*Treasurer*), A. D. SAPSWORTH, H. SCHERREN, F. C. SELOUS, Dr. A. C. STARK, E. C. TAYLOR, N. F. TICEHURST, J. I. S. WHITAKER, L. A. WILLIAMS.

Visitors: T. F. ALTHAUS, Sir HUGH BEEVOR, Bart., M.D., P. W. HOLDEN.

The announcement of the unexpected death of Mr. JOHN WHITEHEAD, the well-known naturalist and explorer, was received with great regret. A telegram had been received from Hainan stating that he had succumbed to a severe attack of fever on the 2nd of June. Mr. Whitehead had left this country in January with the intention of completing his investigation of the Philippine Fauna and exploring the highlands of Hainan and Formosa. Finding it impossible to do any work in the Philippines in their present disturbed state,

[July 4th, 1899.]

he had proceeded to Hainan and had started for the interior of the island on the 13th of March. In his letter, dated the 1st of May, he had reported that he had been very ill and that collecting was almost at a standstill, his entire party having been attacked by fever of a most malignant type. He appeared to have reached the coast, but only to die at Hoilhow, and his loss to the scientific world, at the early age of 38, could not be too greatly deplored. A brilliant field-naturalist, his successes in Corsica, North Borneo, and the Philippine Islands were well known through the pages of 'The Ibis,' and it had been hoped that he would long be spared to continue his useful and interesting career.

A vote of sympathy with the family of the deceased was unanimously passed.

Mr. J. L. BOXHOTE exhibited an example of *Mimus polyglottus*, which he had obtained at Nassau, New Providence.

This individual differed from the majority of specimens in the British Museum in having dark bases to the three outer pairs of tail-feathers.

Mr. BOYD ALEXANDER exhibited male and female examples of a new species of Sun-bird which he had obtained near the Kafui River, South Africa. He proposed to call this species:—

CINNYRIS SHELLEYI, sp. n.

Adult male. Entire head, neck, back, and lesser wing-coverts metallic green, a slight golden gloss on the back of the head, neck, and mantle; wings and tail black. At the base of the metallic-green throat is a narrow steel-blue collar, followed by a broad bright scarlet pectoral band, the feathers of which are partially barred with steel-blue; remainder of the underparts blackish brown. Bill and legs black; iris dark brown. Total length 4·65 inches, culmen 0·85, wing 2·5, tail 1·7, tarsus 0·65.

Adult female. Similar in plumage to that of *C. mariquensis*, but more yellow and less mottled with dusky on the underparts. Total length 4·56 inches, culmen 0·85, wing 2·4, tail 1·7, tarsus 0·65.

Obs. This species is nearly allied to *C. bifasciatus*, which it resembles in size, but differs in having the bastard primary smaller and more pointed: in this character it resembles *C. mariquensis*.

The most marked specific characters of *C. shelleyi* are the scaling-wax red pectoral band, which is similar to that of *C. erythrocerca*, and the blackish-brown breast, which resembles that of *C. bouvieri*; the golden gloss on the metallic upper parts is also far less than in *C. mariquensis*. The position of this new species appears to be intermediate between *C. erythrocerca* and *C. mariquensis*.

Mr. OGILVIE GRANT exhibited an example of a new species of Rough-winged Swallow collected by Mr. W. Blayney Percival at Ruo, British Central Africa. Mr. Grant proposed to call it:—

PSALIDOPROCNE PERCIVALI, sp. n.

Allied to *P. antinori*, Salvad., from Shoa, but with the general colour of the plumage black glossed with dark green, instead of sooty black with a dull bronze gloss. Total length 5·25 inches, wing 4·1, tail 3·4, tarsus 0·38.

The Hon. WALTER ROTHSCHILD exhibited the original drawings for the plates in his forthcoming "Monograph of the Genus *Casuaris*" (to be published in the Zoological Society's 'Transactions'), and also the type of *Casuaris loræ*, Rothsch., and a young bird of the same species. He acknowledged 8 distinct species of *Casuaris*, and, counting all the local races or subspecies, recognized eighteen separable forms, as follows:—

Casuaris casuaris. Ceram.

C. casuaris beccarii. Vokan I., Aru Group.

C. casuaris salvadorii. Arfak, N.W. New Guinea.

C. casuaris sclateri. Southern New Guinea, from Maccluer Inlet to Samarai.

C. casuaris australis. Queensland.

C. casuaris violicollis. Probably Trangan I., Aru Group.

C. casuaris intensus. Hab. incert.

- C. bicarunculatus*. Wammer and Kabroor Is., Aru Group.
C. uniappendiculatus. Arfak and Salwatti.
C. uniappendiculatus occipitalis. Jobi I. and Geelvink Bay,
 N. New Guinea.
C. uniappendiculatus aurantiacus. Huon Gulf, E. New
 Guinea.
C. philipi. Hab. incert.
C. papuanus. Arfak and Salwatti.
C. papuanus edwardsi. Geelvink Bay.
C. picticollis. British New Guinea (low country).
C. picticollis hecki. German New Guinea.
C. loræ. Owen Stanley Range, S.E. New Guinea.
C. bennetti. New Britain.

Mr. ROTHSCHILD further exhibited a pair of the so-called *Palæornis salvadorii* from Thibet. He had lately received two living females of the true *Palæornis derbyana*, said to have come from Hainan. The original examples of *Palæornis salvadorii* came from Moupin and were decidedly smaller than *Palæornis derbyana*; but as the specimens from Thibet were exactly intermediate in size, *P. salvadorii* could not be regarded as a distinct species. Till the true habitat of *Palæornis derbyana*, the largest form, was definitely ascertained, *P. salvadorii* might be given subspecific rank as *Palæornis derbyana salvadorii*.

Mr. ROTHSCHILD also exhibited some skins of *Telespiza cantans* from Laysan Island. They belonged partly to what he had formerly described as a distinct species (Ann. Mag. Nat. Hist. 1892, x. p. 110) under the name of *T. flavissima*, which was also described and figured under this name in the first part of his 'Avifauna of Laysan.' He said that by the fine series of skins he had lately received from Professor Schauinsland, which were much finer specimens and in better plumage than those originally obtained by Henry Palmer, and also from Prof. Schauinsland's careful observations, it was proved beyond doubt that the two forms were not distinct, *T. flavissima* being merely the fully adult

male of *T. cantans*. The species would therefore stand as *T. cantans*.

Mr. ROTHSCHILD further exhibited a specimen of an extremely rare Lark, *Mirafra erythropygia* (Strickl.), and a Kestrel, *Cerchneis alopec*, Heugl. The former was only known from Kordofan, and the British Museum possessed only one very poor skin of it; while the latter was previously known from Bogosland, Shoa, and Redjag in Equatorial Africa. The specimens exhibited had, however, been collected by Captain Giffard at Gambaga, north of Ashanti, and their occurrence so far west was in the highest degree interesting.

Mr. ROTHSCHILD also exhibited a pair each of *Pyrocephalus dubius*, Gould, and *P. nanus*. The former had been described by Gould from one female collected by Darwin on one of the Galápagos Islands, but it was not known which.

In the 'Catalogue of Birds,' *P. dubius* had been united with *P. nanus* in spite of its inferior size and wider and more distinct superciliary stripe. *P. dubius* was, however, a perfectly distinct species and was confined to Chatham Island, while *P. nanus* occurred on most of the remaining islands of the group. Mr. Ridgway had recognized the distinctness of this form in his excellent Monograph of the Ornithology of the Galápagos Islands, and the series obtained by the Harris expedition fully confirmed his opinion.

Mr. ERNST HARTERT exhibited a pair of Flycatchers belonging to an undescribed genus and species. He characterized them as follows:—

DAMMERIA, gen. n. (Muscicapidæ).

Remarkable for its strong, high, and arched beak, with large nostrils plainly to be seen in front of the stiff, short frontal plumes, which are continued on the beak to the nostrils. In the well-developed wing the fifth primary is the longest, the first a little more than half the length of the

second. Tail composed of 12 feathers, rather more than two-thirds of the length of the wing; rectrices about equal in length, slightly pointed at the tips. Metatarsus long, longer than the middle toe with claw, covered in front with a lamina which shows some two or three divisions only near the toes. Sexes dissimilar in coloration.

DAMMERIA HENRICI, sp. n.

Adult male. Above dark slaty blue; lores and feathers of the forehead darker, nearly black. Above the lores, from the eye to nearly the middle of the forehead, a line of pure white feathers, similar to that found in many species of the genus *Brachypteryx*. Under surface dark slaty blue; chin darker, almost black; in the middle of the throat a white, sometimes concealed, patch. Feathers of the chest and breast with narrower or wider longitudinal white spots near the tips; those of the belly and sides of rump tipped with white; under tail-coverts nearly black with white patches. Remiges brownish grey towards the bases of the inner webs; under wing-coverts slate-colour, partly tipped with white. Iris brown, bill black, feet blackish plumbeous. Total length about 130 mm., wing 68-69, tail 50, metatarsus 20, culmen from forehead about 15, bill from end of nostril to tip 7.

Adult female. Above olive with a rusty wash; a buff superciliary line from the forehead to above the eye. Remiges olive-brown, outer webs edged with rusty brown, pale brown towards the base of the inner webs. Ear-coverts with pale shaft-lines. Under surface rusty buff, brighter on the throat and chest, and washed with olive on the sides and flanks; feathers of the chest with olive patches, producing a somewhat striped appearance. Feet pale flesh-colour. Wing 64-65 mm.

Immature male. Resembles the adult female, but with the upper surface darker and the feathers tipped with ferruginous, the chest more streaked, and the superciliary stripe less developed.

Hab. Island of Dammer in the Banda Sea, where it was discovered by Mr. Kühn.

Mr. HARTERT further exhibited a new species of Finch of the genus *Loëphila* and its nearest ally. He described the new form as follows:—

POËPHILA NIGROTECTA, sp. n.

Similar to *P. cincta*, from which it differs in being considerably smaller and in having the upper tail-coverts black like the rump. In *P. cincta* the upper tail-coverts are perfectly white:—not black with white tips as described in Butler's 'Foreign Finches,' where, however, an excellent plate is given.

Total length about 100 mm., wing 59-60 (about 63 in *P. cincta*), tail 41, culmen 9·5.

Hab. Cape York, Queensland, where it was obtained by Mr. Meek.

Mr. SOLATER read some extracts from a letter he had received from Major A. Cowie, R.E., at present stationed in the island of St. Lucia, West Indies. Among the birds observed were examples of the American Laughing-Gull (*Larus atricilla*), which had not been previously recorded from the island.

Mr. N. F. TICEHURST exhibited a fine example of the two-barred Crossbill (*Loxia bifasciata*) which had been obtained in East Sussex on the 23rd of February.

A discussion arose regarding the changes of plumage in the male of the Common Crossbill, in which Messrs. Howard Saunders, Rothschild, Hartert, and Bonhote took part.

Mr. PHILIP CROWLEY exhibited two eggs of Paradise-birds which had been obtained on Mt. Victoria, British New Guinea. One of these was stated to be undoubtedly an egg of *Paradisaea raggiana*.

Mr. HOWARD SAUNDERS read an extract from a letter received from Mr. Heatley Noble, in which the latter described the breeding of the Scaup Duck (*Fuligula marila*) in Sutherlandshire.

The next Meeting of the Club will be held on Wednesday, the 18th of October, 1899, at 8.30, at the Restaurant Frascati, 32 Oxford Street ; the Dinner at 7 P.M.

(Signed)

P. L. SCLATER,	W. R. OGILVIE GRANT,	HOWARD SAUNDERS,
<i>Chairman.</i>	<i>Acting Editor.</i>	<i>Sec. & Treas.</i>

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BULLETIN
OF THE
BRITISH ORNITHOLOGISTS' CLUB.

EDITED BY
R. BOWDLER SHARPE, LL.D.

VOLUME IX.
ANNUUM GENERUM INDEX ALPHABETICUS.

LONDON:
R. H. PORTER, 7 PRINCES STREET, CAVENDISH SQUARE.

APRIL 1899.

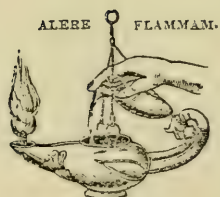
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PREFACE.

THIS Index was originally prepared, under Mr. Selater's directions, at the Office of the Zoological Society of London in Hanover Square, by Mr. F. H. Waterhouse, the Librarian of the Society, and his assistants. A MS. copy of it was subsequently presented by Mr. Selater to the Library of the Bird-room in the British Museum. This Index having been found to be of great assistance in both the above-mentioned Libraries to those who require to make frequent references to the 'Catalogue of Birds,' it was resolved by the Committee of the British Ornithologists' Club to print it as an extra volume of the 'Bulletin,' of which it will accordingly form Volume IX.

Our best thanks are due to Mr. Waterhouse and his assistants for the care they have taken in the compilation and correction of this Index, which we trust may prove useful to all working ornithologists.

The following Latin lines were composed by a Member of the B.O.C. to commemorate the names of the eleven Authors of the 'Catalogue of Birds':—

DE CATALOGI AVIUM MAGNI SCRIPTORIBUS UNDECIM.

Sharpius inceptit, scripsitque volumina multa ;
 Seebohmus sequitur, promptus ad auxilium.
Teutonicus, zelo plenus, venit inde *Gadovus*,
 Salvinusque bonam præbet amicus opem.
Jam Selaterus adest, tria longa volumina complens,
 Americanarum notus amans avium.
Expers Hargittus nunc Picos ordinat omnes,
 Hartertusque sagax *Cypselidas* numerat.
Multum etiam pensæ *Shelleyi* profuit ardor,
 Multum *Saundersi* mens operosa dedit.
Clarus ab Italiâ jam *Salvadorius* adstat,
 Et tandem *Grantus* fine coronat opus.

R. B. S.

AVIUM GENERUM INDEX ALPHABETICUS:

AN

ALPHABETICAL INDEX TO THE GENERA

ADOPTED IN THE TWENTY-SEVEN VOLUMES OF THE
CATALOGUE OF THE BIRDS IN THE BRITISH MUSEUM.

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